

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1981

TWENTY-FIRST YEAR — No. 225

international review of the red cross



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The Twenty-fourth International Red Cross Conference

The Twenty-fourth International Red Cross Conference, held in Manila, from 7 to 14 November 1981, was attended by a large number of delegations representing 121 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the ICRC, the League of Red Cross Societies and more than 80 States parties to the Geneva Conventions. The Conference was also attended by numerous observers from as yet unrecognized Red Cross Societies and from governmental and non-governmental organizations, which had been invited to follow the proceedings.

The International Conference was preceded, from 29 October, by various Red Cross meetings, the League General Assembly and, on 6 November, the Council of Delegates.

OPENING CEREMONY

At the opening ceremony of the International Conference, on 7 November, after a solemn reading of the Red Cross principles, General Romeo C. Espino, the President of the host National Society, the Philippine Red Cross, welcomed the delegates as follows:

The Red Cross has gone a long way in over a century of service to humanity. Today it has unlimited opportunities to provide assistance in both war and peace.

The Red Cross has always risen to its challenges and has always been equal to the task. It has adapted to the needs of the times. Where human lives are at stake, the organization has not been wanting in responsiveness, will, creativity and dedication—at both individual and collective levels—even in the face of serious resource constraints.

The founding of the Philippine National Red Cross shows the solidarity of the Filipino people with people all over the world in striving for a better quality of life for all mankind. Now the Filipino people, like the Red Cross, have extended their vision beyond the Filipino community to the world as a whole: a world where love, peace and other humanitarian values will prevail.

The holding of the Twenty-fourth International Red Cross Conference in Manila this month is doubly significant, relevant and timely. We in the Philippines are happy and proud that this prestigious Conference is held in our country.

What remains the biggest challenge to the Red Cross is its commitment to the attainment of genuine, positive, and lasting peace. When Henry Dunant founded the Red Cross, he did not perhaps expect it to be as big and influential as it has become. Perhaps he did not expect its role to be that complicated either.

But the constant reassessment of its role, made necessary by the difficulties facing it, and the adoption of a definite position on the problems it must solve, constitute the primary challenges that the Red Cross faces today.

May this Manila Conference strengthen our resolve to meet these and the rest of our challenges squarely in the interest of mankind.

On behalf of the Philippine National Red Cross, I welcome you to this Twenty-fourth International Conference in Manila, and I hope you find your stay pleasant, interesting and fruitful.

* * *

The Chairman of the Standing Commission, Sir Evelyn Shuckburgh, thanked the Philippine Red Cross for its welcome and expressed a few relevant thoughts to all participants :

My first duty as Chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross is to express our heartfelt thanks to the Philippine Government and the Philippine National Red Cross for providing this magnificent setting for our Twenty-fourth International Conference. The hospitality we are receiving, the excellence of the arrangements made for us and the friendly attentions given to us by our Philippine colleagues have been most highly appreciated by us all. The Standing Commission, which has, among other tasks, the responsibility for selecting the host city of the Conference, congratulates itself on having

chosen Manila on this occasion and I know that all the participants will share our appreciation and satisfaction and will join in the thanks I am expressing.

It is a very great privilege for me to find myself standing on this podium and to address the assembled leaders of the Red Cross world in the presence of the representatives of governments signatories of the Geneva Conventions, and I shall try to express in a few words my thoughts about the Red Cross and its place in the contemporary world.

As soon as one has uttered the words "the contemporary world", one's mind becomes filled with dark thoughts and deep forebodings about the violence and the suffering which that world contains, and the sounds of conflict that rend the air.

Then when you listen with greater attention, you can hear a distinct voice, a voice of mercy trying to make itself heard above the din. This is the recognizable voice of the Red Cross. It is not, alas! always listened to, but it never ceases to sound and it will never cease to sound.

We, as representatives of all the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the world are now about to engage, for a week, in a dialogue with the governments signatories of the Geneva Conventions. Only once every four years do we have this opportunity to engage the direct interest and support of government representatives, and we should use these rare occasions to bring to the attention of governments, through their representatives, the enormous range of constructive work carried out by the Red Cross throughout the world, and show them the value of our activities.

Our movement has never been more active, more effective, more greatly in demand, more true to its mission. The records of the work of National Societies, taken together with the long list of their operations provide the proof of that.

For it is at the level of National Societies and their work on the ground that the true value of the Red Cross is to be judged. If you want to envisage the reality of the Red Cross, you must cast your minds back to your own country, where the Red Cross workers, the volunteers, old and young, are, at this very moment, on the job.

Societies have two main obligations: the first is that they must abide by Red Cross Principles and the second is that they should give one another support and assistance in Red Cross work in every possible way. That is the great—and very comforting—strength of the Red Cross, and it is because of this that we can be sure the Red Cross will survive. Its considerable strength and health also come from the flexible independence and interdependence of its component parts.

Relief work by both ICRC and League has spanned the whole world, but the largest efforts have been in South East Asia and on the continent of Africa, where assistance has been given to literally countless victims of conflict, drought and famine. The number of refugees assisted in the past four years certainly exceeded that in any similar period of so-called "peace". The League and the ICRC have also been working on plans to strengthen the capacity of the smaller National Societies.

The work of the Red Cross is in full spate. Not everybody finds it easy to understand our peculiar structure with our two organizations in Geneva and our 128 organizations round the world, and not everybody can fully comprehend the philosophy, the ethic. But everybody can understand the motivation and the Principles and everybody can understand mercy and humanity...

* * *

Next Mr. Alexander Hay, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, drew attention to three major concerns of the ICRC in a changing world where the elementary rules of humanity were increasingly flouted, namely, the increase of indiscriminate violence; the politicization of the humanitarian domain and the obstacles raised in the way of ICRC action; the arms race.

The address of the ICRC President will be printed in the next issue of International Review.

* * * .

Mr. Enrique de la Mata Gorostizaga, who had just been elected President of the League of Red Cross Societies, delivered the following address:

The world in which we live leads us to what is doubtless concern shared by all about violence and injustice in present-day society...

Faced with this definitely bleak situation, we men and women of the Red Cross must nevertheless seek reasons to encourage us in our work, and one of them is the existence, alongside the destructive impulse

of some groups of people, of many thousands of experts, politicians, economists, sociologists, who daily make efforts to expose these ills, to define them clearly, to show the magnitude of the problems, and try to find the appropriate solutions in order to alleviate collective suffering. There is a common desire felt by the people of today to work and improve the society in which we live. . .

We delegates present at this International Conference appreciate the desire to adopt a modern and realistic viewpoint, a desire to take up the challenge of building a future for all, which must of necessity be better. Two hundred and fifty million persons make up our organization in which everyone, without regard to social class, and because of fundamental principles, gives of his best to alleviate the suffering of others or achieve greater well-being for them. . .

These united efforts, this will to work towards a common goal, this energy, this endeavour, this refusal to accept without challenge an evil which could seem irremediable, the collective resolve to overcome difficulties, are our encouragement and hope. In this respect there may be a need for political powers and the Red Cross to unite their strengths in order to strive for common aims, and this will occur when we are all agreed on the need to respect above all the liberty and dignity of man, when we agree on the need to reduce possible dangers to people and alleviate their suffering, when we agree on the need to improve the quality of the future and to work for development of human relations based on mutual respect and equality. . .

* * *

The President of the Republic of the Philippines, Mr. Ferdinand Marcos, closed the meeting with an address in which he affirmed his country's loyalty to the principles of the Red Cross.

“As one of the hundred and fifty nations that are signatories to the Red Cross-initiated Geneva Conventions, the Philippines is committed wholeheartedly to the principles for which your organization stands”, he said.

He then expressed his apprehension about attempts from some quarters to undermine the organization's traditions of neutrality. He exhorted the Red Cross to be vigilant of those who sought “to compromise the Red Cross tradition of being non-partisan”.

The President stated that the Philippines, which had benefited from the movement's services, looked upon the Red Cross as an organization embodying the noblest impulse of man. "We look to your organization's service to humanity of well over a century—a cause that we have tried to share, no matter how modestly—as somehow an affirmation of our own solidarity with all of mankind... for we too have known suffering, distress, privation and poverty."

The President added that the organization's excellent work had by its example made the doing of good works easier for all and had taught the people of the Philippines to share what it had with all mankind. This had been the sentiment which had prompted the Philippine people to provide a haven for thousands of refugees without asking them their political opinions or their race.

He praised the Red Cross for its determination to remain aloof from all political and ideological considerations, for "its capacity to resist the machinations of less commendable interests and for its historic record of selflessness and self-sacrifice," which had "given the Red Cross a unique influence and persuasiveness that other international and often better-endowed organizations can only aspire to".

He concluded by wishing the delegates a pleasant stay in Manila and a fruitful conference.

* * *

We wish to mention that Mr. Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations, sent the following message to the Conference:

On the occasion of the twenty-fourth International Conference of the Red Cross, I should like to offer my warmest good wishes to those who are gathered together in Manila.

To all of us who are engaged in the service of others, whether in the United Nations, in government or in the voluntary agencies, the work of the International Red Cross is an example of how disinterested, devoted work can bring in its train real and concrete results...

The value of so efficient and dedicated an organization has never been demonstrated so clearly as in the really difficult, large-scale multiple emergency where the results of natural events are superimposed upon the confusion and chaos which are the consequences of some of man's deliberate activities...

I look forward to continuing the co-operation which has grown up between the League of Red Cross Societies and the United Nations in

natural disasters, and between the International Committee of the Red Cross and United Nations bodies in times of conflict. I am sure that your deliberations in this Conference will do much to enhance the already high esteem in which the Red Cross is held throughout the world.

* * *

The next issue of *International Review* will contain a summary of the various Red Cross meetings in Manila: the League General Assembly, the Council of Delegates and the International Red Cross Conference (Commissions and plenary sessions). It seemed important to publish without delay the text of the resolutions and decisions taken in Manila and no space was available here for the summary of the deliberations.

Resolutions of the XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross

I

Wearing of identity discs

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that, in several situations of armed conflict, the identification of members of the armed forces killed on the battle-field is made extremely difficult for lack of identification documents,

recalling that Articles 16 and 17 of the First Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 provide for identity discs to be worn by members of the armed forces to facilitate their identification in case they are killed and the communication of their deaths to the Power on which they depend,

1. *urges* the Parties to an armed conflict to take all necessary steps to provide the members of their armed forces with identity discs and to ensure that the discs are worn during service,

2. *recommends* that the Parties to an armed conflict should see that these discs give all the indications required for a precise identification of members of the armed forces such as full name, date and place of birth, religion, serial number and blood group; that every disc be double and composed of two separable parts, each bearing the same indications; and that the inscriptions be engraved on a substance as resistant as possible to the destructive action of chemical and physical agents, especially to fire and heat,

3. *reminds* the Parties to an armed conflict that one half of each disc must, in case of death, be detached and sent back to the Power on which

the member of the armed forces depended, the other half remaining on the body,

4. *notes* that the International Committee of the Red Cross is prepared to provide models to States asking for them.

II

Forced or involuntary disappearances

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

alarmed at the phenomenon of forced or involuntary disappearances, perpetrated, connived at or consented to by governments,

deeply moved by the great suffering such disappearances cause not only to the missing persons themselves and their families but also to society,

considering that such disappearances imply violations of fundamental human rights such as the right to life, freedom and personal safety, the right not to be submitted to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, the right not to be arbitrarily arrested or detained, and the right to a just and public trial,

pointing out that families have a right to be informed of the whereabouts, health and welfare of their members, a right which is laid down in various resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly,

commending the efforts of the ICRC, the Working group established by the UN Commission on Human Rights to investigate the phenomenon of forced or involuntary disappearances and various impartial humanitarian organizations for the benefit of missing persons and their families,

1. *condemns* any action resulting in forced or involuntary disappearances, conducted or perpetrated by governments or with their connivance or consent,

2. *recommends* that the ICRC take any appropriate action which might reveal the fate of missing persons or bring their families relief and urges that the ICRC Central Tracing Agency and any other impartial humani-

tarian organization be granted the facilities necessary to take effective action in this matter,

3. *urges* governments to endeavour to prevent forced or involuntary disappearances and to undertake and complete thorough inquiries into every case of disappearance occurring in their territory,

4. *urges* governments to co-operate with humanitarian organizations, and with the relevant bodies of the United Nations and of intergovernmental organizations, in particular those which investigate forced or involuntary disappearances, with a view to putting an end to that phenomenon.

III

Application of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having considered the reports of the ICRC on its activities from 1973 to 1980 and from 1 January to 30 June 1981,

recalling and confirming Resolutions X of 1969, III of 1973 and X of 1977 of the previous International Conferences of the Red Cross,

deeply concerned about the continued refusal of the occupying power to acknowledge the applicability and comply with the totality of its obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war,

deeply disturbed by the policies contrary to article 49 paragraph 6 of the Fourth Geneva Convention affecting the Arab population in the occupied territories in the Middle East,

conscious of the fact that the Parties to the Geneva Conventions have undertaken, not only to respect, but also to ensure respect for the Conventions in all circumstances,

1. *expresses* once more its deep concern for the situation of the Arab civilian population of the occupied territories in the Middle East,

2. *reaffirms* the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the occupied territories in the Middle East,
3. *requests* the authorities concerned to fulfill their humanitarian obligations by facilitating the return of people to their homes and their reintegration into their communities,
4. *calls upon* the occupying power to acknowledge and comply with its obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention, and to this effect cease forthwith all policies and practices in violation of any article of this Convention,
5. *affirms* that the settlements in the occupied territories are incompatible with articles 27 and 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention,
6. *expresses* its appreciation to the ICRC and its delegates in the Middle East for their continuous efforts in that region.

IV

Humanitarian activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross for the benefit of victims of armed conflicts

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

noting the persistence of international or non-international armed conflicts in which the ICRC is partially or totally unable to fulfill its humanitarian tasks in situations covered by the Geneva Conventions,

deploring in particular the fact that the ICRC is refused access to the captured combatants and detained civilians in the armed conflicts of Western Sahara, Ogaden and later on Afghanistan,

urges all parties concerned to enable the International Committee of the Red Cross to protect and assist persons captured, detained, wounded or sick and civilians affected by these conflicts.

V

Anti-piracy efforts

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

profoundly concerned that persons seeking asylum continue to be attacked by pirates at sea,

emphasizing the urgency of further steps to combat this heinous crime against humanity,

1. *calls* on States Parties to the International Convention on the High Seas (Geneva, 1958) to discharge to the full their obligations under that Convention,
2. *urges* all States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the ICRC, as well as concerned governmental international organizations to co-operate to the fullest extent possible in measures designed to assist regional and other efforts in eradicating piracy on the high seas and in territorial waters.

VI

Respect for international humanitarian law and for humanitarian principles and support for the activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

deeply concerned by the Report on the Activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross,

noting that in several armed conflicts fundamental provisions of the Geneva Conventions are violated and that these grave violations have often the consequence of impeding the International Committee of the Red Cross in the discharge of its activities pursuant to international law applicable in armed conflicts—international, internal or mixed,

observing further that the International Committee of the Red Cross is not always able to discharge its humanitarian activities in internal disturbances and tensions,

alarmed by such violations of the rules of the law of nations and of humanitarian principles, and likewise by the development of violence and contempt for human rights in the world,

recalling that, pursuant to the Geneva Conventions, the States have the obligation not only to respect but to ensure respect for these Conventions,

makes a solemn appeal that the rules of international humanitarian law and the universally recognized humanitarian principles be safeguarded at all times and in all circumstances and that the International Committee of the Red Cross be granted all the facilities necessary to discharge the humanitarian mandate confided to it by the international community.

VII

The Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling Resolution III adopted by the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross and Resolution 2 adopted by the Council of Delegates in 1979,

having examined the ICRC Report on signatures, ratifications and accessions to the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,

confirming the interest which the International Conference has always had in the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts,

1. *notes* the fact that 18 States are Parties to Protocol I and 16 to Protocol II,

2. *reaffirms* its will to do everything in its power so that the two Additional Protocols should be as universally accepted as the Geneva Conventions,
3. *invites* the States which have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the two Additional Protocols,
4. *invites* the ICRC, within its statutory mandate and in co-operation with the National Societies, to pursue its efforts to promote knowledge and universal acceptance of the two Additional Protocols.

VIII

Identification of medical transport

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that:

- the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), pursuant to Resolution 17 of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts (CDDH), is working out amendments to the annexes 2, 7, 10 and 11 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, and is continuing the study of specifications with a view to making the identification of medical aircraft easier,
- the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) has acted upon the CDDH Resolution 18 by inserting in the International Code of Signals a chapter entitled “Identification of Medical Transport in Armed Conflicts”,
- the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC 79) has acted upon the CDDH Resolution 19 by inserting in the Radio Regulations a section entitled “Medical Transports”,
- the WARC 79 also acted upon the Resolution IX of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross by adopting Resolution 10 on emergency radiocommunications,

noting that pursuant to article 21 of the Second Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 special protection shall be granted to ships and craft assisting the wounded, the sick and the shipwrecked,

referring further to the pertinent provisions of Protocol I Additional to the Geneva Conventions, relating to the protection to be granted to medical ships, craft and aircraft,

believing that any improvement in the system of identification of all ships, craft and aircraft, particularly those of neutral or other States not Parties to the conflict, used to assist the wounded, the sick and the shipwrecked, will improve the special protection to be granted to ships, craft and aircraft in such circumstances,

noting in this context that the WARC 79 adopted Resolution 11 with annex relating to the use of radiocommunications for ensuring the safety of any ship and aircraft of neutral and other States not Parties to an armed conflict,

1. *notes with satisfaction* that Governments and their national telecommunication administrations and the specialized international organizations, by responding to CDDH Resolutions 17, 18 and 19, have contributed to the improvement of the safety and rapidity of medical evacuations,
2. *welcomes the fact* that the Radio Regulations are taking Red Cross radio communications into consideration,
3. *urges* Governments to do their utmost to ensure the formulation in appropriate international conferences or by a relevant international organization such as the WARC and IMCO, of rules and procedures for the better identification of ships, craft and aircraft of neutral States and of other States not Parties to an armed conflict when these ships, craft and aircraft assist the wounded, the sick and the shipwrecked,
4. *invites* Governments to see also in peacetime to the necessary co-ordination between civilian and military telecommunication services on the one hand and medical services on land, at sea and in the air, on the other hand, and to make available as far as possible to medical personnel, modern communication and identification systems providing optimum safety conditions for the evacuation of the wounded, the sick and the shipwrecked especially in time of armed conflict.

IX

Conventional weapons

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling the general principle of the protection of the civilian population against the effects of hostilities, the principle of international law that the right of the Parties to an armed conflict to choose methods or means of warfare is not unlimited, and the principle that prohibits the employment in armed conflicts of weapons, projectiles and material and methods of warfare of a nature to cause superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering,

recalling the deliberations on the use of certain conventional weapons by an *ad hoc* Committee of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts, Geneva (1974-1977), and, amongst others, the Conferences of Government experts held at Lucerne (1974) and Lugano (1976) under the auspices of the ICRC,

recalling also Resolution 22 of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts,

1. *notes with satisfaction* the adoption by a United Nations Conference, on 10 October 1980, of a Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects and of its annexed Protocols, and the adoption by this Conference, at its 1979 session, of a Resolution on small-calibre weapon systems,
2. *invites* States to become Parties to the Convention and its annexed Protocols as soon as possible, to apply them and examine the possibility of strengthening or developing them further,
3. *appeals* to Governments, in conformity with the above Resolution, to exercise the utmost care in the development of small-calibre weapon systems, so as to avoid an unnecessary escalation in the injurious effects caused by such systems,

4. *invites* the ICRC to follow these matters and to keep the International Conference of the Red Cross informed.

X

Dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law and of the Red Cross principles and ideals

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having with satisfaction taken cognizance of the work accomplished by the ICRC, the League, the National Societies and the Henry Dunant Institute for the implementation of Resolution VII of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross, including the drawing up of a Programme of Action of the Red Cross with respect to dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law and of the principles and ideals of the Red Cross,

mindful that, pursuant to articles 47, 48, 127 and 144 of, respectively, the First, Second, Third and Fourth 1949 Geneva Conventions and to article 83 of the 1977 Protocol I and article 19 of the 1977 Protocol II, the States Parties have undertaken a commitment to disseminate knowledge of these treaties as widely as possible, an obligation of which, moreover, they were reminded by Resolution 21 on the dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts adopted by the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts,

1. *urges* the Governments of States Parties to the Geneva Conventions and, as the case may be, to the 1977 Protocols, to fulfill entirely their obligation to disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law among their armed forces, ministries, academic circles, schools, medical professions and general public, in particular by encouraging the establishment of joint committees representing the appropriate ministries and National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to develop such activities,
2. *notes* the special responsibilities of National Societies to assist their Governments in this work and invites National Societies, in co-operation

with the ICRC, the League and with the assistance of the Henry Dunant Institute, to train national officials to be responsible for dissemination, and to co-operate also with their authorities, especially on the joint committee on dissemination,

3. *asks* the ICRC and the League, each within its own sphere, to help National Societies to draw up and implement national and regional dissemination programmes,

4. *requests* the ICRC and the League to report jointly to the next meeting of the Council of Delegates and to the XXVth International Conference of the Red Cross on international, regional and national dissemination action, and on the follow up of the present resolution.

XI

International courses on the law of war

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering the unanimous desire of the nations of the world to fully implement the provisions of the Geneva Conventions and other rules of international law applicable to armed conflicts,

considering that there might be a great number of members of armed forces who may not be familiar with or even know the said Conventions and other rules,

recognizing that there is urgent need to conduct a continuing legal education on the Geneva Conventions, law of war and other rules of international law applicable to armed conflicts of international or non-international character in order to:

— attain a uniform interpretation and application of the said Conventions and other rules,

— familiarize members of armed forces with the provisions thereof, and to make them fully understand and appreciate the concept and philosophy behind this international humanitarian law, particularly legal officers who interpret these rules and unit commanders who are themselves the implementors of said rules and who are really the ones

directly involved in actual combat and in actual contact with civilians in areas of combat operations,

1. *recommends*, therefore, that the ICRC conduct, and/or sponsor the conduct of, international courses on said Conventions and other rules, annually or as often as possible, and request States to send legal officers and commanders of their armed forces to attend these courses,

2. *recommends* further that the ICRC urge all Governments to require their armed forces to continuously conduct the same courses in their service schools with the graduates of the international courses as instructors to attain a universal standard of instruction.

XII

Revision of the regulations on the use of the emblem

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling the adoption by the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross, meeting in Vienna in 1965, of the “Regulations on the use of the emblem of the red cross, red crescent and red lion and sun by National Societies” (Resolution XXXII),

noting that, since 1965, experience has shown that the Regulations could be improved in a certain number of points,

noting that the adoption, in 1977, of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 requires an adaptation of these Regulations for the National Societies of States which have become Parties to the Protocols,

1. *requests* the ICRC to prepare a draft revision of these Regulations for the next International Conference, in co-operation with the League and the National Societies and after having consulted signaling system experts, and having previously submitted this draft to the next Council of Delegates,

2. *notes* that pending such revision of the Regulations, the *status quo* will be maintained.

XIII

Disarmament, weapons of mass destruction and respect for non-combatants

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

emphasizing that the vocation of the International Red Cross, in conformity with its fundamental principle of humanity, is to prevent and alleviate human suffering in all circumstances, to protect life and health, to ensure respect for the human being and to promote mutual understanding, friendship, co-operation and lasting peace amongst all peoples,

recalling Resolutions XXIV, 18, XVIII, XXVIII, XIV and XII, adopted respectively by the Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first and Twenty-third International Conferences of the Red Cross,

reaffirming the duty of the Parties to an armed conflict to renounce the use of methods or means of warfare that do not make any distinction between combatants and non-combatants,

drawing attention to the fact that the Red Cross has constantly shown particular concern about the use and the existence of weapons of mass destruction, which cause damage without discrimination,

convinced that the Red Cross shall encourage all the efforts leading to disarmament, but aware that some means of achieving disarmament are subject to political controversies, taking part in which is prohibited by its principle of neutrality,

1. *urges* Parties to armed conflicts not to use methods and means of warfare that cannot be directed against specific military targets and whose effects cannot be limited,

2. *fully endorses* the appeal launched by the ICRC to Governments participating in the First Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Disarmament, requesting them in particular to do their utmost to establish the atmosphere of confidence and security that would allow the deadlock, in which mankind is, to be broken and an agreement on disarmament to be reached above particular interests.

XIV

Torture

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

noting that torture is condemned and forbidden by international humanitarian law, international instruments relating to human rights and the general principles of international law,

noting that despite such prohibition torture is practised to an alarming extent in many countries,

1. *urges* the Governments of all States and the international organizations concerned to make greater efforts to ensure universal respect for these prohibitions,
2. *requests* the United Nations Organization to expedite the adoption of an international convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and including provision for the effective supervision and enforcement of its application,
3. *appeals* to National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies as well as to the League to enhance public awareness of and support for the struggle against torture and to support all efforts, in particular those of the International Committee of the Red Cross, designed to prevent and eliminate torture.

XV

Assistance to victims of torture

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling Resolution XIV on torture adopted by the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross in which all forms of torture were condemned, Governments and appropriate international organizations were urged to do their utmost to eliminate such practices, and the Red Cross organizations were invited to co-operate in the realization of this objective,

disturbed by the fact that acts of torture still take place in various parts of the world,

deeply concerned over the plight of victims of torture,

recognizing the need to provide assistance to the victims of torture in a purely humanitarian spirit,

1. *welcomes* current efforts within the United Nations to establish a Voluntary Fund for the victims of torture, enabling the fund, through established channels of humanitarian assistance, to extend humanitarian, legal and financial aid to individuals whose fundamental rights have been severely violated as a result of torture and to relatives of such victims,

2. *urges* Governments to consider responding favourably to requests for contributions to such a fund.

XVI

Promoting Red Cross : Joint efforts of the ICRC and the League

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having examined the document entitled “Concept of the International Red Cross and Audio-Visual Centre of the International Red Cross”,

1. *expresses* satisfaction at the effective follow-up given to Resolution XX of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross on “Promoting the Image of the Red Cross worldwide”,

2. *approves* the orientation suggested by the ICRC and the League for the use of the concept of the International Red Cross, taking into account the Statutes and specific nature of each of its component bodies,

3. *adopts* their joint proposal to insert, in each of their publications and communications to the media, a boxed note mentioning that they belong to the International Red Cross and giving a short description of their respective functions, with a view to making them more easily understood by the public at large,

4. *invites* the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to follow the recommendations of the ICRC and the League to insert similar boxes in their own publications and communications to the media,

5. *encourages* the ICRC and the League to continue their joint efforts to make known to the public at large the nature and scope of the Red Cross activities at international level, and to support the National Societies in their information programmes,

6. *considers* that the Audio-Visual Centre of the International Red Cross — jointly administered by the ICRC and the League — is an important means by which the Red Cross movement can attain its objectives relating to information and dissemination.

XVII

Financing of the ICRC by Governments

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

noting the specific mandates entrusted to the International Committee of the Red Cross by the Geneva Conventions of 1949, their 1977 Protocols, and the Statutes of the International Red Cross relating to armed conflicts and similar situations,

recognizing the need for adequate financial support for ICRC activities carried out in fulfilment of these mandates, in particular for those activities which the ICRC alone is capable of discharging, especially in the field of protection,

recalling the resolution adopted by the 1949 Diplomatic Conference requesting Governments to provide the ICRC with regular financial support,

recalling also the resolutions adopted by previous International Conferences on the financing of the ICRC,

1. *appeals* to all Governments to provide the ICRC, through sufficient regular annual and special contributions, with the means required to carry out its humanitarian tasks,

2. *recommends* that Governments include in their budgets provision for regular financial support for the humanitarian assistance activities carried out by the ICRC in aid of victims of armed conflicts or similar situations,

3. *decides* to renew the mandate of the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC, the members of which shall be the National Societies of Algeria, Colombia, Denmark, Germany (Fed. Rep.), Honduras, Japan, Malaysia, Mauritania and Romania.

XVIII

Financing of the ICRC by National Societies

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having taken note of the report submitted by the Commission for the Financing of the ICRC,

noting the continual increase in the ICRC's tasks and the financial burden arising therefrom,

drawing attention to the resolutions adopted by numerous previous International Conferences,

stressing that by virtue of the principle of solidarity binding the members of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, National Societies should help the ICRC to achieve its humanitarian objectives,

1. *encourages* the National Societies to support the ICRC in its negotiations with their Governments,

2. *expresses* the wish that the National Societies will do their utmost so that their total voluntary contributions should reach 10% of the ICRC's ordinary account expenditure for the preceding year. The share of each National Society in these contributions should be equal to the percentage assigned to that Society in the League's scale of contributions,

3. *proposes* that the said amount of 10% be re-examined at each meeting of the Council of Delegates.

XIX

The role of voluntary service in the Red Cross

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

recognizing that voluntary service is a fundamental principle and an essential characteristic of the world Red Cross movement,

considering that the rapid development of contemporary society and its socio-economic implications generate new needs,

noting the diversification of Red Cross activities and the part taken by a large number of volunteers in the life of their communities, bringing assistance to people in need of aid,

bearing in mind the necessity for continuity in the provision of voluntary service, where applicable in close co-operation with public bodies,

expressing its gratitude to the Henry Dunant Institute and to the League for their excellent and constructive report,

endorsing Recommendation 4 of the Third Regional Conference of European National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, held in Budapest in May 1981,

1. *recommends the National Societies :*

- (a) to proceed to re-examine their activities in order to cause a larger number of volunteers to take part in determining, organizing and carrying out their tasks;
- (b) to provide opportunities to volunteers in co-operating, when appropriate, with the authorities and private organizations in planning health and social welfare programmes to cover the needs of the population, and in implementing plans made;
- (c) to associate volunteers more closely with the development of health and social welfare activities in their own country, and to give them such tasks as will rouse their sense of responsibility and maintain their interest;

- (d) to offer youth real opportunities for training and participation, as volunteers, in all their National Societies activities including management and decision-making;
- (e) to encourage dissemination within and outside the Red Cross of the objectives and means of using voluntary services; and to pay more attention to recruiting, selecting and training methods;
- (f) to make sure that volunteers admitted to National Societies are fully informed on the ideals and fundamental principles of the Red Cross and are ready to serve them with the loyalty and devotion to duty that are the hallmark of their work for human solidarity;

2. *recommends the League of Red Cross Societies*, within the limits of its plan and budget:

- (a) to disseminate the experience acquired in the field of voluntary service, facilitate the setting up and strengthening of links between National Societies, and support them in developing such activities as require the participation of volunteers; and on the basis of information received to see that guidelines on voluntary service are published;
- (b) to invite inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations to recognize the actual and potential value of Red Cross volunteers in humanitarian activities, support them and help them within the limits of their ability to carry out their mission;

3. *recommends Governments* :

- (a) to support the National Societies' efforts to extend the scope of voluntary services and increase their efficiency;

4. *recommends the Henry Dunant Institute* :

- (a) to work in close co-operation with the League and the ICRC for more effective adaptation of voluntary service to the actual needs of society by means of studies and seminars on voluntary service in all its forms;
- (b) to submit its study to the next International Conference.

XX

Joint Commission for National Society statutes

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having taken cognizance of the report of the Joint Commission set up by the ICRC and the League to examine National Society statutes,

acknowledging the co-operation established between the two international Red Cross institutions to watch over the application and constant observance of the rules governing the recognition of new National Societies and their admission to the League,

recalling Resolution VI of the XXIIInd International Conference of the Red Cross,

1. *requests* the National Societies to continue their collaboration with the Joint Commission, by regularly communicating to the League and the ICRC the amendments which they plan to introduce in their statutes, and by adapting them to the Joint Commission's recommendations,
2. *expresses the wish* that, in respect of recognition of new Societies by the ICRC and their admission to the League, the Joint Commission continue its works in co-operation with the League Development Programme, within the framework of the Strategy for Development of National Societies in the 80's,
3. *approves* the report and thanks the Joint Commission for its work.

XXI

International Red Cross aid to refugees

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling Resolution I of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross which stated that the fundamental mission of the Red Cross includes the provision, without discrimination as to race, nation-

ality, religious beliefs or political opinions, of protection and assistance to those who need it, in the event of armed conflict and other disasters,

conscious of the large number of refugees, returnees and displaced persons and the extent of human misery caused by the displacement of populations in many parts of the world,

recalling the primary responsibilities of the Governments of countries of asylum for the care of refugees on their territories, while bearing in mind the obligation of the international community to share equitably the burden of refugee protection, assistance and resettlement, in accordance with accepted principles of international solidarity and co-operation,

recalling that in accordance with their auxiliary role in the humanitarian services of their Governments and with the relief principles of the International Red Cross, National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies should take immediate actions to alleviate suffering of victims of calamities, including emergency aid to refugees, returnees and displaced persons,

recalling the primary function of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the field of international protection and material assistance to refugees, persons displaced outside their country of origin and returnees, as laid down by its Statutes, the United Nations Conventions and Protocol relating to the status of refugees and relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly,

considering that the ICRC and the League have respective functions in co-ordinating international Red Cross assistance to these victims, especially when they do not fall under the competence of the Office of the UNHCR,

1. *approves* the policy of the Red Cross in this field as set out in the statement annexed,
2. *pledges* the unremitting support and the collaboration of the Red Cross with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in their respective activities in favour of refugees and displaced persons, within the framework of this policy.

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AID TO REFUGEES STATEMENT OF POLICY

1. The Red Cross should at all times be ready to assist and to protect refugees, displaced persons and returnees, when such victims are considered as protected persons under the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, or when they are considered as refugees under article 73 of the 1977 Protocol I additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, or in conformity with the Statutes of the International Red Cross, especially when they cannot, in fact, benefit from any other protection or assistance, as in some cases of internally displaced persons.
2. The services offered by a National Society to refugees should conform to those offered to victims of natural disasters, as indicated in the Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief. These services should be of an auxiliary character and undertaken in agreement with the authorities. They should be in strict accordance with Red Cross fundamental principles.
3. Assistance from the Red Cross should at all times take due account of the comparable needs of the local population in the areas in which refugees, displaced persons and returnees are accommodated. Since Red Cross relief programmes are essentially of an emergency character, they should be phased out as soon as other organizations are in a position to provide the aid required.
4. All National Society actions for the benefit of refugees and displaced persons should be immediately reported to the League and/or the ICRC.
5. It is the responsibility of each National Society to inform the League and/or ICRC of any negotiations likely to lead to a formal agreement between the Society and the UNHCR. The League and/or ICRC should be associated with the Society in the negotiations and concur with the terms of agreement.
6. Societies, when possible, should use their influence to encourage their Governments to accept refugees for resettlement as well as to participate as appropriate by assisting with welfare programmes in the resettlement process in close co-operation and co-ordination with their Governments.
7. The ICRC, League and National Societies should co-operate to the maximum possible extent with UNHCR and all other institutions and organizations (governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental) working in the field of refugee relief.
8. As a neutral and independent humanitarian institution, the ICRC offers its services whenever refugees and displaced persons are in need of the specific protection which the ICRC may afford them.

9. The Central Tracing Agency of the ICRC is also always ready in co-operation with National Societies to act in aid of refugees and displaced persons, for instance by facilitating the reuniting of dispersed families, by organizing the exchange of family news and by tracing missing persons. When necessary, it offers its co-operation to the UNHCR, as well as its technical assistance to National Societies to enable them to set up and develop their own tracing and mailing services.
10. The international institutions of the Red Cross will have regular consultations with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on matters of common interest and, whenever considered useful, will co-ordinate their humanitarian assistance in favour of refugees and displaced persons in order to ensure complementarity between their actions.

XXII

Co-operation of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies with Governments in the field of primary health care

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

taking into account the importance of promoting health and well-being of the population as a necessary condition for social progress and safeguarding peace in the world,

recalling Resolutions XV and XVII of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross, defining the role and main forms of medico-social activities of National Societies in the framework of the Red Cross humanitarian mission,

recalling the readiness of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to co-operate with their respective Governments—which was confirmed by Recommendation 1 of the Second Session of the General Assembly of the League—in promoting health and well-being by providing primary health care in line with the principles and tasks of the Red Cross,

noting the necessity of further developing community services of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in order to meet the needs of the population taking into account local socio-economic conditions,

sharing the position of the WHO, that the main social task of Governments and health bodies in the coming decades should be the attainment by all people of such a level of health which would allow them to lead a socially and economically productive life,

stressing the importance of primary health care as the main factor of achieving the goal "health for all by the year 2000",

1. *recommends* the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to consider the development of primary health care a main task in the field of medico-social activities, paying special attention to those elements and directions of these activities which meet their national needs,
2. *recommends* the National Societies to broaden as far as possible interregional and intraregional co-operation in setting up and improving community services through the exchange of experiences, personnel and information,
3. *requests* the League Secretariat to ensure elaboration of regional strategies and programmes for developing primary health care as an integral part of the strategy for the development of National Societies,
4. *invites* all Governments to take into account in formulating their countries health strategies the potentials of their National Red Cross or Red Crescent Societies and assist them in a practical way in the preparation and implementation of primary health care programmes.

XXIII

Involvement of volunteers in Red Cross community services

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having taken note of Recommendation 7 of the first session of the League General Assembly in 1979,

recalling Resolutions XV and XVII of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross defining the Red Cross role in medico-social activities of National Societies,

1. *stresses* the importance of the role of the volunteer in all Red Cross activities,

2. *urges* National Societies and the League to provide every facility for basic orientation, training and supervision of volunteers, to involve volunteers and users of services to actively participate in the planning and management of services, and to ensure that professionals and volunteers work in a complementary manner,
3. *invites* Governments to give every possible support in enabling National Societies to utilize volunteers to the greatest benefit of the community.

XXIV

Integrated approach to community services

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

taking note of the Report on the Integration of Red Cross Activities in Community Services as a follow up to Resolutions XV and XVII of the XXIIIrd International Conference,

stressing the importance of close co-operation between Governments and National Societies in order to implement national development plans,

noting with satisfaction the awareness of the need for intersectoral collaboration in order to meet the needs of the community,

recommends that all efforts be made both within the National Societies and the League Secretariat to further implement an intersectoral approach to their work notably through joint projects and joint seminars.

XXV

Development of National Societies in the context of national development plans

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having taken note of the League General Assembly's deliberations and decisions regarding the "Strategy for the Development of National Societies",

sharing the concern of the General Assembly about the need for a realistic Red Cross development strategy,

being aware that the strengthening of the organizational and operational capacity of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the developing countries is a prerequisite to their primary health care, preparedness for situations of natural disasters and of armed conflicts including relief as well as participation in other service programmes for their communities and concurring with the other views expressed by the General Assembly,

recognizing the need for co-operation between the League, the ICRC, the National Societies, the Governments and other organizations, both governmental and non-governmental,

invites Governments and other organizations to co-operate with the Red Cross movement by supporting its efforts to develop self-reliant and capable National Societies in all countries.

XXVI

The role of medical personnel in the preparation and execution of Red Cross emergency medical actions

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

aware of the great number of armed conflicts and natural disasters in which the National Societies, the ICRC and the League must provide emergency medical assistance,

desiring the experience acquired by the Red Cross to be fully used in the better preparation of medical personnel and material,

mindful of the Red Cross need to obtain for that purpose the services of experienced members of the health professions for the analysis of needs and for the planning, co-ordination, conduct and appraisal of emergency medical actions,

bearing in mind Resolution XVII of the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross recommending that the skills and know-

ledge of professionals be mobilised in the planning and implementation of all humanitarian activities,

1. *recommends* the ICRC and the League to improve the instruction material to be made available to National Societies and to help the National Societies to train personnel for national and international emergency medical actions,
2. *urges* the National Societies to follow the guidelines issued by the ICRC and/or the League when making medical personnel and material available to those two organizations,
3. *recommends* each National Society wishing to participate in ICRC and League emergency medical actions to use for their preparation members of the health professions having the necessary experience of emergency medical action, who could also assess the work of returning teams and process their reports,
4. *recommends* also each National Society undertaking a medical action in a country where neither the ICRC nor the League is operating to follow the rules and principles evolved by the International Red Cross and to entrust the planning and conduct of the action to experienced members of the health professions,
5. *requests* all National Societies to participate in Red Cross national and international development programmes for emergency medical action.

XXVII

International year of disabled persons

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that in its Resolution A/31/123 of 16 December 1976 the General Assembly of the United Nations decided to proclaim the year 1981 the "International Year of Disabled Persons",

noting with satisfaction that the same Resolution stresses the importance, to the success of the said Year, of active participation by non-governmental organizations at the national and international levels,

convinced that all the objectives proposed under the motto of this year “full integration and participation” are compatible with Red Cross activities and correspond to its humanitarian desire to promote health and well-being,

remembering the interest taken by the Red Cross movement, in co-operation with the disabled and their organizations, in education and training of disabled, making them self-reliant by using their own resources in the daily life,

noting the results obtained by the ICRC in helping the most disadvantaged disabled persons by the use of knowledge and technology appropriate to local conditions and by making use of the participation of the disabled themselves in the projects,

1. *invites* National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the League and the ICRC to pursue and develop the co-operation with the disabled,
2. *expresses* the hope that Governments will intensify their efforts to support National Societies, the League and the ICRC in their activities in aid of the disabled,
3. *recommends* that a special fund to be jointly administered by the ICRC and the League be formed for the benefit of the disabled and to promote the implementation of durable projects to aid disabled persons.

Decisions of the XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross

I

Modification of the Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross

decides:

1. to amend Article 14 as follows:

Article 14 — Role of the League

The League acts as the information centre for the Red Cross regarding situations caused by disaster and co-ordinates at the international level the assistance provided by National Societies and the League or channelled through them.

2. to add the following new Article 14 A:

Article 14 A — Initial information

To enable the League to act as the disaster information centre, National Societies shall immediately inform it of any major disaster occurring within their country, including data on the extent of the damage and on the relief measures taken on the national level for assisting victims. Even if the National Society does not envisage appealing for external assistance the League may, after having obtained clearance from the National Society, send a representative to the spot to gather the information it needs.

3. to revise Article 20 A of the Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief as follows:

Accounting and auditing for joint or separate League and/or ICRC operations and programmes

National Societies receiving gifts from sister Societies, the League, the ICRC or any other source in the context of a joint or separate League and/or ICRC operation or programme must conform to the following rules as regards accounting:

Gifts in cash

The operating Society shall be reminded of the provisions of the “Principles and Rules for Red Cross Disaster Relief”, and that in the interests of sound financial administration donors oblige the League/ICRC to require that the National Society’s accounts relating to the operation/programme be audited at intervals as decided in the interest of the operation/programme by auditors designated or approved by the League/ICRC. A final audit will be required upon completion of all operations/programmes. The cost of the audit work will be met from the funds available for the operation/programme.

The operating Society shall open in its own name a special bank account whose sole purpose shall be to receive all the funds and cover all the expenditure of the operation/programme and which shall not be used for any other of the Society’s normal transactions.

The operating Society shall render a monthly account of the funds held by it for the operation/programme showing: opening balance brought forward from the previous month; income *from all sources* during the current month; actual disbursements during the month; and the closing balance for the month. The further information required for the following month comprises: anticipated income, an estimate of expenditure and cash requirements. The League/ICRC would in that way be prepared to give consideration to making an appropriate supplementary advance in cash.

The expenditure charged to the operation/programme shall be shown in a detailed monthly statement which, together with copies of vouchers for all amounts debited and a recapitulatory statement from the bank, shall be sent promptly to Geneva.

The delegate responsible for contact with the operating Society shall be given a copy of the Society’s financial reports and shall keep himself informed on the progress of the operation/programme. He shall examine the financial situation in the light of his knowledge of the conduct of the operation/programme.

Gifts in kind

Where gifts in kind are made a statement of the stocks showing the origin and use made of such contributions shall be submitted monthly and upon completion of the relief operation.

4. to amend the title of Article 24 as follows and add the following new paragraph:

New title:

Article 24 — Unsolicited relief supplies

New paragraph:

In the absence of such an agreement, the receiving National Society is free to use unsolicited relief supplies at its own discretion, without being bound by the provision of the third paragraph of Article 25.

5. to add the following new Article 29:

Article 29 — Obligations

A National Society which accepts spontaneous or special assistance is bound to conform to the obligations laid down in the present “Principles and Rules” even though it has not requested assistance within the terms of the first paragraph of Article 15.

II

Revision of the Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

mindful of Resolution III adopted by the Council of Delegates in 1963 approving in principle the creation of a Henry Dunant Medal as a reward for exceptional merit acquired in Red Cross service,

mindful also of Resolution XII adopted by the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross (Vienna, 1965) which created the Henry Dunant Medal and laid down the relevant regulations,

having noted the report on the revision of the Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal,

1. *reiterates* its thanks to the Australian Red Cross on whose initiative the Henry Dunant Medal was created and whose generosity permits of its continued production,

2. *approves* the revision of the Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal, the new version of which reads as follows,

3. *decides* that the Council of Delegates shall be the body competent to deal with any matter relating to the Henry Dunant Medal, including any proposal to amend these Regulations.

Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal

*(as adopted by the XXth International Conference, Vienna, 1965,
and revised by the XXIVth International Conference, Manila, 1981)*

1. The Henry Dunant Medal is intended to recognize and reward outstanding services and acts of great devotion, mainly of international significance, to the cause of the Red Cross by any of its members.
2. Criteria for the award of the Medal include risks run and arduous conditions endangering life, health and personal freedom. It may also be awarded for a long period of devoted service to the International Red Cross.
3. The Henry Dunant Medal is a red cross bearing the profile of Henry Dunant in relief, attached to a green ribbon. When worn with other Red Cross badges or decorations it takes precedence.
4. The Henry Dunant Medal shall be awarded every two years by decision of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross in plenary session. Exceptionally the Standing Commission may, provided all its members expressly agree, award the Medal at once without regard to the two-year interval and even without meeting in plenum.
5. No more than five Medals shall normally be awarded every two years. The Standing Commission shall be free to reduce that number or in exceptional cases to increase it.
6. The Henry Dunant Medal may be awarded posthumously to members who have died recently.
7. Nominations for the award of the Medal should be addressed to the Secretariat of the Standing Commission, giving full details and wherever possible enclosing supporting documents and testimonies. Individuals may be proposed for the award by National Societies, the ICRC, the League or a member of the Standing Commission.
8. Candidates need not be members of the Red Cross organization proposing them.
9. Before the Standing Commission meets, its Secretariat shall submit candidates' files to a joint meeting of the League and the ICRC empowered to recommend the rejection of any obviously ineligible candidates or to ask for further information to be added to a candidate's file before it is passed to the Standing Commission.

10. The Chairman of the Standing Commission shall present the Medals at a plenary meeting of the Council of Delegates. If the beneficiary or a member of his family is not present the Medal will be handed to the President or senior representative of the National Society or of the institution concerned for presentation to the beneficiary on behalf of the Chairman of the Standing Commission.

III

Revision of the Regulations for the Florence Nightingale Medal

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

mindful of Recommendation 2 of the first session of the General Assembly of the League of Red Cross Societies (Geneva 1979),

having studied the report on the examination of the Regulations for the Florence Nightingale Medal,

approves the revised text of those Regulations, which reads as follows:

Article 1

In accordance with the recommendation of the VIIIth International Conference of the Red Cross held in London in 1907, and the decision of the IXth International Conference held in Washington in 1912, a Fund was established by contributions from National Societies of the Red Cross in memory of the great and distinguished services of Florence Nightingale for the improvement of the care of wounded and sick.

The income of the Fund shall be used for the distribution of a Medal, to be called the "Florence Nightingale Medal", to honour the spirit which marked the whole life and work of Florence Nightingale.

Article 2

The Florence Nightingale Medal may be awarded to qualified nurses and also to voluntary aids who are active members or regular helpers of a National Red Cross or Red Crescent Society or of an affiliated medical or nursing institution, for having distinguished themselves in time of peace or war, by their exceptional courage and devotion to wounded, sick or disabled persons or those whose health is threatened.

The Medal may be awarded posthumously if the prospective recipient has fallen on active service.

Article 3

The Medal shall be awarded by the International Committee of the Red Cross on proposals made to it by National Societies.

Article 4

The Medal shall be in silver-gilt with a portrait on the obverse of Florence Nightingale with the words "Ad memoriam Florence Nightingale 1820-1910". On the reverse it shall bear the inscription on the circumference "Pro vera misericordia et cara humanitate perennis decor universalis". The name of the holder and the date of the award of the Medal shall be engraved in the centre.

The Medal shall be attached by a red and white ribbon to a laurel crown surrounding a red cross.

The Medal shall be accompanied by a diploma on parchment.

Article 5

The Medal shall be presented in each country either by the Head of the State, or by the President of the Central Committee of the National Society directly or by their substitutes.

The ceremony shall take place with a solemnity consistent with the distinction of the honour conferred.

Article 6

The distribution of the Florence Nightingale Medal shall take place every two years.

Not more than 50 Medals may be issued at any one distribution.

If by reason of exceptional circumstances due to a widespread state of war it has been impossible for one or more distributions to take place, the number of Medals awarded at subsequent distributions may exceed the figure of 50 but may not exceed the total number which would normally have been attained, if the preceding distributions had been able to take place.

Article 7

From the beginning of September of the year preceding the year in which the Medal is awarded, the International Committee of the Red Cross shall invite the Central Committees of the National Societies by means of a circular and application forms to submit the names of the candidates they consider qualified to be awarded a Medal, in accordance with the conditions mentioned in Article 2.

Article 8

The Central Committees of the National Societies, having taken all requisite advice, shall submit to the International Committee of the Red Cross the names and qualifications of the candidates they propose.

To enable the International Committee to operate a fair selection, the candidates' names shall be accompanied by all relevant information justifying an award of the Medal.

All applications submitted must come from the Central Committee of a National Society.

The Central Committees may submit one or more applications, but are not bound to submit applications for each distribution.

Article 9

The applications with the reasons in support of them must reach the International Committee of the Red Cross before March 1 of the year in which the award of the Medal is to take place.

Applications reaching the International Committee after that date cannot be considered except in connection with a subsequent award.

Article 10

The International Committee of the Red Cross retains complete freedom of choice. It may refrain from awarding the total number of Medals contemplated, if the qualifications of the applicants submitted do not appear to merit this distinguished honour.

Article 11

The International Committee of the Red Cross shall issue on the anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, namely on May 12, a circular informing the Central Committees of the National Societies of the names of those to whom the Medal has been awarded.

It shall forward to the Central Committees as soon as possible after that date the Medals and diplomas to be handed to their recipients.

Article 12

The present Regulations, adopted by the XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross held in Manila in 1981, supersede all previous rules relating to the Florence Nightingale Medal, in particular those of the International Conference in Washington, 1912, the Regulations of 24 December 1913, and the amendments to the latter by the Xth Conference in Geneva, 1921, the XIIIth Conference in The Hague, 1928, the XVth Conference in Tokyo, 1934, and the XVIIIth Conference in Toronto, 1952.

IV

Code of ethics for blood donation and transfusion

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross,

recalling the important role played by the Red Cross Societies in national blood programmes, in particular in the promotion of voluntary, non-remunerated blood donation,

referring to Resolution 28.72 of the Assembly of the World Health Organization (Geneva, 1975) on the utilization and supply of human blood and blood products; to Resolution of the General Assembly of the International Society of Blood Transfusion (Montreal, 1980) requiring its members to improve the ethical, medical and technical standards of blood transfusion practice to the best of their ability in accordance with the Code of ethics of this Society as well as to previous recommendations adopted by the governing bodies of the International Red Cross,

noting the approval of the Code of ethics of the International Society of Blood Transfusion by the International Group of Red Cross Blood Transfusion Experts and by the Second Session of the General Assembly of the League of Red Cross Societies,

recognizing the necessity of ensuring the best possible protection of blood donors and recipients,

approves the following Code of ethics of the International Society of Blood Transfusion and urges all National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to communicate it to their respective health authorities with a view to its application, and to disseminate it as widely as possible.

CODE OF ETHICS FOR BLOOD DONATION AND TRANSFUSION — 1980

The object of this Code is to define the principles and rules to be observed in the field of blood transfusion; these should form the basis of national legislation or regulations.

I. The Donor

1. Blood donation shall in all circumstances, be voluntary; no pressure of any kind must be brought to bear upon the donor.
2. The donor should be advised of the risks connected with the procedure; the donor's health and safety must be a constant concern.
3. Financial profit must never be a motive either for the donor or for those responsible for collecting the donation. Voluntary non-remunerated donors should always be encouraged.
4. Anonymity between donor and recipient must be respected except in special cases.

5. Blood donation must not entail discrimination of any kind, either of race, nationality or religion.
6. Blood must be collected under the responsibility of a physician.
7. The frequency of donations and the total volume of the blood collected according to the sex and weight of the individual, as well as the upper and lower age limits for blood donation, should be defined by regulations.
8. Suitable testing of each donor and blood donation must be performed in an attempt to detect any abnormalities:
 - (a) that would make the donation dangerous for the donor,
 - (b) that would be likely to be harmful to the recipient.
9. Donation by plasmapheresis should be the subject of special regulations that would specify:
 - (a) the nature of additional tests to be carried out on the donor,
 - (b) the maximum volume of plasma to be taken during one session,
 - (c) the minimum time interval between two consecutive sessions,
 - (d) the maximum volume of plasma to be taken in one year.
10. Donations of leukocytes or platelets by cytapheresis should be the subject of special regulations that specify:
 - (a) the information to be given to the donor about any drugs injected and about the risks connected with the procedure,
 - (b) the nature of any additional tests to be carried out on the donor,
 - (c) the number of sessions within a given time frame.
11. Deliberate immunisation of donors by any foreign antigen with the aim of obtaining products with a specific diagnostic or therapeutic activity should be the subject of special regulations that would specify:
 - (a) the information to be given to the donor about the substance injected and the risks involved,
 - (b) the nature of any additional tests which have to be carried out on the donor.
12. The donor must be protected by adequate insurance against the risks inherent in the donation of blood, plasma or cells, as well as the risks of immunisation.

N. B. The purpose of the special regulations in items 9, 10 and 11 above is to safeguard the donor. After being told about the nature of the operation and the risks involved, a statement of informed consent must be signed by the donor. For donors immunised against red cell antigens, a special card should indicate the antibodies and specific details as to the appropriate blood to be used in case the donors need to be transfused.

II. The Recipient

13. The object of transfusion is to ensure for the recipient the most efficient therapy compatible with maximum safety.
14. Before any transfusion of blood or blood products, a written request, signed by a physician or issued under his responsibility must be made, which specifies the identity of the recipient and the nature and quantity of the substances to be administered.
15. Except for the emergency use of type 0 blood or red blood cells, every red cell transfusion necessitates preliminary blood grouping tests on the recipient, and compatibility tests between the donor and the recipient.
16. Before administration, one must verify that blood and blood products are correctly identified and that the expiry date has not been passed. The recipient's identity must be verified.
17. The actual transfusion must be given under the responsibility of a physician.
18. In case of a reaction during or after the injection of blood or blood products, appropriate investigations may be required to ascertain the origin of the reaction and to prevent its recurrence. A reaction may require the interruption of the transfusion.
19. Blood and blood products must not be given unless there is a genuine therapeutic need. There must be no financial motivation on the part of either the prescriber or of the establishment where the patient is treated.
20. Whatever their financial resources, all patients must be able to benefit from the administration of human blood or blood products, subject only to their availability.
21. As far as possible the patient should receive only that particular component (cells, plasma, or plasma derivatives) that is needed. To transfuse whole blood into a patient who requires only part of it may deprive other patients of necessary components, and may carry some additional risks to the recipient.
22. Owing to the human origin of blood and to the limited quantities available, it is important to safeguard the interests of both recipient and donor by avoiding abuse or waste.
23. The optimal use of blood and blood products requires regular contact between the physicians who prescribe and those who work in blood transfusion centres.

III. Controls

24. Appropriate controls should be required by the Health Authorities to verify that blood transfusion practices meet internationally accepted

standards and that the guidelines or regulations issued in accordance with this code are effectively respected.

25. The following should be regularly checked:

- (a) the proficiency of the staff,
- (b) the adequacy of the equipment and premises,
- (c) the quality of methods and reagents, source material and finished products.

V

Appointment of the Members to the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross

elects the following persons to membership of the Standing Commission until the next International Conference: Mr. Ahmad Abu-Gura (Jordan), Mr. János Hantos (Hungary), Mr. Soehanda Ijas (Indonesia), Mr. R. James Kane (Canada) and Mr. Kai J. Warras (Finland).

VI

Place and date of the XXVth International Conference of the Red Cross

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross

accepts with gratitude the Swiss Red Cross Society's invitation to hold the XXVth International Conference of the Red Cross in Geneva in 1986.

VII

Thanks

The XXIVth International Conference of the Red Cross

presents its respectful thanks to His Excellency, President Ferdinand E. Marcos, President of the Republic of the Philippines, for having

granted his high patronage, for having honoured the opening meeting with his presence and for having made an eloquent speech,

expresses its gratitude to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines for its assistance to the Philippine National Red Cross with the preparation for and the running of the Conference,

thanks the City of Metro Manila and the Philippine people for the friendly welcome extended to all the delegates and observers,

conveys its most sincere gratitude to General Romeo C. Espino, the Chairman of the host Society, for having presided over its debates with kindly authority, as well as to the Philippine National Red Cross and all its staff and volunteers, not forgetting the League and ICRC personnel, who so untiringly contributed to the smooth conduct of the deliberations,

expresses to all the representatives of the press, radio and television of the Philippines, and to the foreign news agencies who covered the Conference its sincere appreciation of their efforts in making its deliberations and results known to the world.

Resolution of the Council of Delegates

1

Development of the activities of the Henry Dunant Institute

The Council of Delegates,

having considered the report of the Henry Dunant Institute on its activities since the XXIIIrd International Conference of the Red Cross (Bucharest, October 1977),

1. *expresses* its appreciation of the positive results which it achieved and encourages it:
 - to continue its action in the service of the Red Cross movement in the fields of research, training and publications,
 - to reinforce its contribution to the efforts of the ICRC in disseminating international humanitarian law,
 - to continue to support the action of the ICRC and of the League in the dissemination of the principles and ideals of the Red Cross;
2. *encourages* National Societies to contribute to the activities of the Institute, especially:
 - by providing it with research subjects and programmes of a humanitarian character and by making available as far as possible qualified personnel to carry them out,
 - by assisting the Institute in organizing for their own nationals or for other categories of people who do not belong to the Red Cross, seminars on the Red Cross, international humanitarian law and other specific subjects,

- by helping it produce and publicize its publications and by providing it with any useful material of a historic or legal character;
 - 3. *invites* National Societies to provide it with the means necessary to the implementation of specific projects, thus enabling it to pursue and develop its action.
-

Decisions of the Council of Delegates

1

Commission on the Red Cross and Peace

The Council of Delegates,

having adopted the Report of the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace,

bearing in mind that the Commission's terms of reference, assigned to it by the Council of Delegates in 1977 and confirmed by the Council of Delegates in 1979, was to "follow the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Red Cross as a factor of Peace, by studying the activities of the Red Cross in terms of their contribution to Peace and by proposing to the appropriate bodies of the League, of the National Societies and to the ICRC measures for the realisation of the objectives and tasks deriving from that Programme",

mindful of the fact that these terms of reference have not been fully discharged,

1. *asks* the Commission to continue its work with its present terms of reference and with unchanged composition, and to report to the Council of Delegates in 1983,
2. *decides* that the Council of Delegates in 1983 will devote a full day to consideration of the item "the Youth Red Cross contribution to Peace", and entrusts the preparation for that day to the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace, stressing that such preparation must attribute importance to concrete projects,

3. *asks* the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace to study all questions relating to its existence, terms of reference, composition, duration and proceedings, and to submit to the Council of Delegates in 1983, proposals relative to these points after consensus within the Commission.

2

Emblem

The Council of Delegates,

having taken note of the report by the Working Group on the Emblem, set up pursuant to Decision 3 of the 1977 meeting of the Council of Delegates to examine all questions relating to the emblem,

considering that the Working Group was unable to reach agreement by consensus on either the substance or procedure of a recommendation to be submitted to the Council,

having noted that the same divergent views existed in the Council of Delegates as in the Working Group,

decides, by a majority vote, to terminate the activities of the Working Group on the Emblem.

3

Approval of Accounts

The Council of Delegates

approves the accounts of the Florence Nightingale Fund, the Augusta Fund and the Empress Shoken Fund.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

Ratification of Protocol I by Viet Nam

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam deposited with the Swiss Government, on 19 October 1981, an instrument signifying the ratification by Viet Nam of the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), signed on 12 December 1977.

The Protocol, in accordance with its Article 95, paragraph 2, will enter into force for the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on 19 April 1982.

This ratification brings to 18 the number of States parties to Protocol I whereas 16 are parties to Protocol II.

Ratification of the Protocols by Norway

On 14 December 1981, the Swiss Government received an instrument dated 27 November 1981 signifying the ratification by the Kingdom of Norway of the Protocols I and II Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International and Non-International Armed Conflicts, signed on 12 December 1977.

The instrument registered on 14 December 1981 and the Protocols, in accordance with their provisions, will enter into force for the Kingdom of Norway on 14 June 1982.

The instrument of ratification contains a declaration recognizing *ipso facto* and without special agreement, in relation to any other High Contracting Party accepting the same obligation, the competence of the International Fact-Finding Commission referred to in article 90 of Protocol I.

This ratification brings to nineteen the number of States parties to Protocol I, and seventeen to Protocol II.

ICRC recognition of two new Societies

In October 1981 the International Committee of the Red Cross officially recognized the Tonga Red Cross Society and the Qatar Red Crescent Society. The National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies were informed of this decision in two circulars, dated 20 and 30 October 1981 respectively.

Because of lack of space here, *International Review* will print the circulars in one of its forthcoming issues.

EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES

Africa

South Africa

The ICRC delegation in the Republic of South Africa carried out between 31 August and 18 September a series of visits to security detainees. A team of delegates, accompanied by the ICRC delegate-general for Africa, Mr. Jean-Marc Bornet, visited six places of detention holding 505 sentenced security detainees, including 473 in Robben Island and six women detained in Pretoria.

During this period, the delegation also continued distributing food parcels to detainees' families. It also paid for transport vouchers enabling these families to visit their relatives in prison. The overall cost of this assistance amounts to an average of 42,000 Swiss francs a month.

On 2 September, an ICRC delegate, accompanied by a medical delegate, visited in Pretoria a Soviet prisoner captured in southern Angola at the end of August by the South African armed forces. Another visit was made to him on 24 September, in the company of an ICRC interpreter from Geneva.

Namibia

On 9 October, ICRC delegates visited 10 wounded Angolan prisoners in a hospital in northern Namibia and the following day, in the south of the country, 69 Angolan prisoners who were not wounded or only slightly so. Reports on these visits will be sent to the governments of the Republic of South Africa and of the People's Republic of Angola.

On 6 August, an ICRC delegate visited three detainees (2 men and 1 woman) in Windhoek central prison. In Namibia, as in the Republic of South Africa, the delegation has launched an assistance programme for detainees' families.

Gambia

An ICRC delegate was in Gambia from 24 September to 8 October. He had interviews with the Secretary General of the President's Office, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, Health, Labour and Social Affairs, the General Inspector of Police and with several leaders of the Gambian Red Cross. He reminded them of the ICRC's offers of services, made during two missions in August, to carry out protection activities in aid of persons detained following the events of last July.

During his stay in Banjul, the delegate supplied the authorities with soap to be distributed to detainees.

Since August, the ICRC has provided detainees with relief amounting to almost 9,000 Swiss francs and medicaments for over 16,000 francs.

Chad

The ICRC delegation in Chad was closed on 6 October. An ICRC physiotherapist will remain in N'Djamena to take part in the Catholic Mission's orthopedic programme for war amputees.

Zambia

The ICRC has made an offer of services to the Zambian authorities to carry out protection activities in the country.

The ICRC has decided to share in the financing of a project of the Zambian Red Cross to build a storehouse in Lusaka.

Botswana

The ICRC has offered the Botswana Red Cross a fully equipped mobile office for the city of Gaborone.

Angola

Following armed clashes in southern Angola at the end of August, the ICRC offered its services to the Angolan authorities, proposing to dispatch a team to assess the situation in the area. On 2 September, the offer was officially accepted by the Angolan authorities; the South African authorities, for their part, gave the necessary guarantees. The main purpose of the mission was to assess the medical situation.

A team of three delegates, led by the ICRC chief medical officer, Dr. Rémi Russbach, left Luanda by plane on 3 September and went to Lubango, chief town of the province of Huila, with the intention of

continuing further south to N'Giva, chief town of the province of Kunene. However, because of the danger they were unable to continue their journey. A small sub-delegation was opened in Lubango, to protect and assist the victims of the conflict. Medical supplies, in particular dressing material, were sent there to be used on the spot.

To continue the relief operation in the Planalto region, the ICRC had to overcome enormous difficulties in conveying supplies to the area. For almost six months, transportation of food to Katchiungo posed very considerable problems and to Bailundo it proved almost impossible. Relief distributions in the area were done as much as possible by ICRC aircraft. The nutritional state of the population nevertheless deteriorated.

The situation improved only in October. After months of interruption, the railway was brought back into operation and the ICRC was able to send 265 tons of food, in two convoys, from the port of Lobito to Huambo, to the ICRC special feeding centres in the Planalto area.

During the second half of October, ICRC activities in the Planalto region proceeded according to plan. In Bailundo, some 39 tons of relief were distributed to 13,000 needy persons and 2,264 medical consultations were given. In Katchiungo, pre-cooked meals (representing over 41 tons of food) were distributed to some 10,000 persons in 33 special feeding centres. Moreover, 4.6 tons of various food products were handed over to 550 persons at the Angola leper colony, in the province of Bié.

Zaire

From May to September, the ICRC head of delegation and the delegate in charge of tracing activities in Zaire visited a score of places of detention in the provinces of Kivu and Shaba and saw 1,939 detainees. During these visits they provided some material assistance.

The tracing agency office recorded the names of these detainees and attempted to trace members of their families, so as to re-establish contact between them.

Uganda

Some months ago the Ugandan government announced an amnesty of 3,000 detainees, and 1,425 persons were released at the end of July. A further 1,098 detainees were released on 7 October. Among them were soldiers and members of the police force of the previous regime,

detained in Jinja, Luzira Upper and Murchison Bay prisons. These detainees had been visited once a week by ICRC delegates. ICRC representatives were present when the second group of detainees was released and they gave them clothes, blankets and soap.

In the area of Kampala, the general situation seemed to have improved to a certain extent; there nevertheless still remained much humanitarian work to do to meet all needs. In co-operation with the Ugandan Red Cross, the ICRC delegation continued to distribute relief to the many persons whose belongings had been looted. About 1,000 people received such assistance in the Mukono district.

The delegation continued its protection and assistance in the West Nile province. The medical team still regularly visited dispensaries in the Arua district. In the province, particularly in Arua, needs were considerable. The delegation tried to assist persons victims of looting and extortions. An aircraft, chartered by the German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany, conveyed, on 23 October, 2,300 kilos of clothing given by that National Society and which the delegation will distribute to displaced persons. The same plane also transported 2,000 shirts and 2,000 pairs of trousers offered by the Swiss Red Cross for detainees.

The tracing agency office in Kampala deals with the registration of detainees, the exchange of messages between detainees and their families and the tracing of displaced persons. The agency offices in neighbouring countries, i. e. Zaire, the Sudan and Kenya, where many Ugandans have taken refuge, also have a considerable amount of work, in connection with problems in the West Nile province, to trace the members of dispersed families and to exchange family news.

Horn of Africa

The Horn of Africa is currently the scene of conflicts and there are considerable humanitarian needs over wide expanses of territory. Unfortunately the ICRC has considerable difficulty in carrying out its protection activities. Its visits to Somali prisoners of war in Ethiopia have been suspended; it has had only occasional access to a few Ethiopian prisoners of war in Somalia; various obstacles have arisen in its negotiations with some of the liberation movements. Despite repeated efforts over the past year no progress has been achieved in negotiations with the authorities and governments involved.

Concerned by this situation in which the ICRC is unable to discharge its humanitarian tasks, the International Red Cross Conference, meeting

in Manila in November, adopted Resolution No. IV, the text of which is included in this Review.

Throughout the area, the ICRC has continued its assistance activities for the victims of events.

In the *Sudan*, the ICRC delegation in Khartoum is continuing to help refugees of various origins staying now on Sudanese territory. In October, a special assistance programme was launched on the western border to bring relief to about 11,000 refugees, victims of recent fighting.

In order to deal with the ever-increasing requests to trace members of separated refugee families, the tracing agency office has opened several sub-offices run by local staff working under the responsibility of the ICRC delegate in Khartoum. The network covers seven refugee camps throughout the country.

In Somalia, in October, medicaments amounting to 5,000 Swiss francs were sent to the Somali Red Crescent for the victims of disturbances in the area of Belt-Huen.

In *Ethiopia*, the ICRC delegation is supplying relief goods to the Ethiopian Red Cross for distribution in the provinces.

At the Debre Zeit Orthopedic Centre a team of ICRC specialists has been doing rehabilitation work for the war disabled since 1979. The ICRC is preparing to withdraw the team in the near future, for the Centre will be able to operate independently thanks to the staff trained there. The ICRC is nevertheless thinking of having an orthopedist and a physiotherapist stay on until June 1982.

In the course of a ceremony on 6 October, 27 diplomas and 9 certificates were handed to assistant physiotherapists and orthopedists trained in the Debre Zeit Centre.

Latin America

Argentina

From June to mid-August, ICRC delegates made a visit to each of the main Argentinian places of detention, i. e. Caseros, Villa Devoto, Rawson and La Plata, and saw 1,307 detainees. They also went to Mendoza (23 detainees), Ezeiza (2 detainees), Magdalena (3 detainees), the Borda hospital (2 detainees) and the Moyano hospital (2 detainees).

The delegation negotiated with the Argentinian authorities new visiting procedures that will enter into force in November and give greater facilities to the ICRC when visiting places of detention.

El Salvador

The ICRC delegation in El Salvador has been continuing its protection and assistance to persons affected by the events.

Assistance activities have included relief distributions, in July and August, to villages of the conflict zones in the department of Morazan. In August, however, these villages became inaccessible for almost two weeks, because of the danger. On 21 August, the area became accessible once again and food distributions are proceeding normally. In September, 13 villages were visited and food supplied once a week to some 25,000 persons. In all, distributions in the course of the month amounted to 349 tons of relief. The needs were such that the delegates sometimes had to provide relief to the local population as well as to displaced persons. The medical team gave care to the population in five of these villages, which received no medical attention from the Ministry of Health.

Protection activities in August and September included regular visits by ICRC delegates to the penal centres and hospital wards of the Ministry of Justice, where some 370 security detainees were being held. The delegates also made repeated visits to 40 security posts (of the National Police, National Guard and "Policía de Hacienda"), to 26 barracks of the Ministry of Defence and Public Security and to 15 municipal prisons. During this 2-month period 211 detainees were seen for the first time.

A previous issue of *International Review* reported on the inauguration in San Salvador of a blood collection centre. The centre is working well and since its opening on 7 May, some 800 donors have given their blood.

Nicaragua

On 8 October, the ICRC delegation visited the "Comando Central Carlos Fonseca Amador" detention centre in Matagalpa, where it saw 211 detainees, including 4 security detainees of direct concern to the ICRC. This was the first ICRC visit to a place of detention run by the police.

On 12 October, ICRC delegates visited the "Orlando Bettancourt" centre at Chinandega. Among the 468 detainees held there, 8 belonged to categories of prisoners visited by the ICRC.

A medical delegate, Dr Marti, and a nurse began giving basic hygiene and medical courses at the former "Zona Franca" prison, in order to improve the medical care provided there.

Uruguay

During his last mission to Montevideo, the ICRC regional delegate, Mr. Edmond Corthésy, had an interview on 22 October with high government officials on the possibility of resuming ICRC visits to places of detention. He was assured that the authorities agreed in principle, but that various details of procedure would still have to be laid down.

Asia

Activities on the Khmer/Thai border

The ICRC delegation has been pursuing its activities in aid of refugees along the border between Kampuchea and Thailand. During September and October, the situation in the area was relatively calm.

As before, ICRC medical organization includes one team working at the Khao-I-Dang surgical hospital and two in the camps around Aranyaprathet. There have been no major medical problems in September and October.

The delegation has continued its efforts to extend its protection activities for prisoners in various detention centres along the border. ICRC delegates have visited three detention centres under Khmer responsibility and in August, for the first time, they saw seventeen Vietnamese civilians detained in Phnom Chat. However, the ICRC does not yet have access to all prisoners or persons detained along the border and is pursuing its negotiations with the various Khmer groups in order to obtain the necessary facilities for what it considers to be an important protection activity.

The ICRC delegation in Thailand and head office in Geneva carried on their discussions with the Thai authorities and their representatives in August, September and October in order to find a solution to the problem posed by the 650 refugees of Vietnamese origin blocked on the Khmer/Thai border. Pending a satisfactory solution, particularly to the problem of safety, the ICRC is providing them with food and material assistance in their places of refuge.

During September and October, the ICRC delegation supplied the border refugee camps with some 130,000 dollars worth of medicaments and medical equipment and about 14,000 dollars worth of relief goods (food, shelters, building materials, etc.).

During that same period, assistance provided by the Thai Red Cross to the Thai population living close to the border, i.e. about 80,000 per-

sons whose lives are perturbed by the presence of refugees, continued with the co-operation of the ICRC. This assistance consists of food and medical care.

Tracing agency activities, i.e. the search for missing persons and the exchange of correspondence between separated persons, continued as before.

The ICRC delegation has recently had an opportunity to disseminate the principles and ideals of the Red Cross among various Khmer factions: the *Soldier's Manual* has been distributed in three different zones along the border.

* * *

At the moment the ICRC is making a special effort to get all Khmer tendencies represented in the border area to enable it to provide proper protection and assistance to all captured or detained persons in accordance with the criteria of the International Red Cross.

* * *

The ICRC delegate-general for Asia and Oceania, Mr. Jean de Courten, and the ICRC chief medical officer, Dr Rémi Russbach, were in Thailand and Kampuchea from 26 October to 1 November. They were joined in Bangkok on 2 November by the ICRC director of operations, Mr. Jean-Pierre Hocké.

The purpose of their mission was to have discussions with the ICRC delegation and the authorities on current ICRC activities and on tasks scheduled for the coming months.

Kampuchea

The problem of unaccompanied Khmer children among the refugees in the border area has been mentioned before. The ICRC previously transmitted to the Cambodian authorities the identification files, with photographs, of several hundred children, so as to try and trace their families within Kampuchea.

Measures have been taken to seek the families of these children and several have indeed been located. The ICRC is currently in touch with the Thai authorities and HCR in order to make arrangements for these children to be reunited with their families as rapidly as possible.

In October, ICRC delegates visited orphanages in Krakor, Pursat, Batambang, Kratie and Svay Rieng to plan possible assistance to these orphanages and to avoid overlapping with other organizations.

In September and October, the ICRC aircraft conveyed about 65 tons of relief to Kampuchea in 26 flights from Bangkok to Phnom Penh.

Boat people and piracy

Many of the refugees leaving Viet Nam by sea are attacked by pirates before reaching a country of first asylum. In July, the ICRC and the HCR took the initiative of gathering in Geneva, with the League and UNICEF, a number of representatives of various countries to discuss this humanitarian problem. Other meetings followed in August, September and October, with an ever-increasing number of participants. The meeting on 28 October was attended by 25 representatives of 15 permanent missions, including six ambassadors.

They were reminded that under the 1958 Convention on the High Seas all States are under the obligation to co-operate in the repression of piracy on the high seas and that coastal States must prevent and punish acts of piracy in their territorial waters. Participants recognized the inadequacy of measures taken hitherto. They are considering forming a working group to set up a joint operation of sufficient scale and the various governments have been requested to express their commitment in the struggle against piracy in the area.

The International Red Cross and the governments represented at the International Red Cross Conference in Manila adopted a resolution on piracy, the text of which is included in this issue of the Review.

Malaysia

From 12 to 17 October, the two ICRC regional delegates stationed in Kuala Lumpur, Mr. David Delapraz and Mr. Jean-François Olivier, accompanied by a medical delegate, Dr. Vallet, visited two places of detention and saw 390 persons detained under the law on internal security.

Pakistan

On 1 September, the ICRC and the Pakistani Red Crescent concluded an agreement to improve the conveyance to hospital of Afghan wounded arriving in Pakistan.

Three medical teams run by the National Society, each including one physician and equipped with an ambulance, will deal with the

wounded in the first-aid centres in Parachinar, Bajour and Dir, and transport them to the ICRC surgical hospital in Peshawar. The Pakistani Red Crescent and the ICRC will regularly check and adapt this arrangement to needs and priorities. The three teams began working at the end of September and have already transported a large number of casualties to Peshawar.

The ICRC deputy chief medical officer, Dr. R. Arbex, was on mission in Peshawar from 16 to 25 September to make a new assessment of the delegation's medical activities.

At the ICRC surgical hospital in Peshawar, the number of Afghan war wounded under treatment is increasing constantly and at the end of September there were 75 to 80 casualties in the hospital. The capacity of the hospital was 45 to 65 beds when it was opened in June; it was increased to 110-120 beds. Medical staff has been strengthened accordingly: one additional physician, anaesthetist and nurse were sent to Peshawar at the beginning of October.

The ICRC hospital in Peshawar includes a small unit specialized in treatment for paraplegics and 17 patients are already being cared for there. Further paraplegic patients are expected.

Afghanistan

In October, the ICRC once again proposed to the Government of the People's Republic of Afghanistan to send a mission to Kabul to examine the possibility of an ICRC assistance and protection operation for the victims of the Afghan conflict. The offer was rejected by the Afghan authorities. The ICRC is nevertheless continuing to try and convince all parties concerned to let it intervene in Afghanistan and carry out especially protection activities, for persons captured or arrested during the conflict are in a most tragic situation.

Meeting in Manila in November, the International Red Cross Conference, noting that the ICRC was unable to discharge its humanitarian tasks in Afghanistan, adopted a resolution on the subject (Resolution IV), the text of which is included in this Review.

Middle East

Iraq/Iran conflict

The ICRC delegate-general for the Middle East, Mr. Jean Hoeffiger, went to Teheran on 30 September and had a series of interviews with

members of the Government, including the Prime Minister and the Commander in Chief of the Army.

ICRC President Alexandre Hay, accompanied by delegate-general Jean Hoefliger, was on mission in Baghdad from 18 to 23 October. The ICRC representatives had discussions with members of the Government on ICRC protection activities for Iranian prisoners in Iraq.

Prisoners of war

For four days at the end of September, the ICRC delegation in Baghdad visited Iranian prisoner-of-war camps in Iraq. In discussing these visits with the Iraqi authorities, the President of the ICRC expressed the hope that the ICRC would be authorized to visit all prisoners in Iraq and that detained Iranian civilians would be treated differently from military prisoners of war.

On 24 October, Iraq informed the ICRC that it agreed to send back to Iran, unilaterally and without reciprocity 37 Iranian civilians (mainly women and elderly persons). This proposal was transmitted to Iran, which accepted it. The operation should take place in the near future.

At the end of October and the beginning of November, the ICRC delegation carried out normally several visits to prisoner-of-war camps in Iraq.

The ICRC has been continuing its tracing activities for prisoners of war belonging to both parties of the conflict. These activities include recording the names of prisoners, sending capture cards to the authorities of the countries of origin and exchanging family messages which enable prisoners to remain in contact with their relatives. At the end of October, some 137,000 messages had been exchanged through the ICRC.

Occupied territories and displaced persons

On 5 and 6 October, ICRC delegates went to assess the situation in the Iranian territories of Qasr-i-Shirin and Mehran occupied by the Iraqi armed forces. They found no Iranians: the entire population had fled the area at the beginning of the hostilities.

Since February 1981, the ICRC delegation in Teheran has made several visits to camps in the interior of Iran for displaced persons having fled the zones of fighting. They had noted no major problems in these camps, but in October the Iranian Government asked the ICRC to concern itself with the problems of these displaced persons and a new survey is accordingly being carried out.

Iran

The authorization granted to the ICRC delegation in Teheran to visit Iranian persons detained by the Islamic Revolutionary Courts expired on 13 September and has not been renewed despite the efforts made by the delegation and the delegate-general during his interviews with government officials at the beginning of October.

Lebanon

There was no widespread fighting in Lebanon during September and October. At the ICRC's request, the Swiss Red Cross decided to supply the Lebanese Red Cross with 50 bags of human blood a week, for a period of two months, in order to cover the needs arising from the situation and the violence affecting the civilian population.

The ICRC delegation has continued visiting hospitals, dispensaries and emergency centres and has supplied them with medicaments and medical equipment when necessary. The delegates have also continued their tracing agency activities throughout the country.

On 13 September, 13 ambulances in convoy left Bonn (Federal Republic of Germany) and were driven to Lebanon. All these vehicles, a gift from the ICRC, arrived in Beirut on 26 September. The German Red Cross in Bonn organized the journey from Bonn to the Syrian/Lebanese border; from there the ICRC delegates escorted the vehicles to Beirut. Two more ambulances provided by the ICRC left Geneva on 14 September and arrived in Beirut harbour at the beginning of October, where they were taken over by ICRC delegates.

Jordan

On 28 September, the ICRC delegation in Amman began a new series of visits to the places of detention in Jordan. These visits to 16 places of detention holding some 2,850 detainees were made over a period of nine weeks by two delegates. The previous series of visits had been carried out in May and June.

Israel and Occupied Territories

In September, the ICRC delegation in Israel and the Occupied Territories continued its visits to security detainees under interrogation held by the army (244 visits) and to detainees on remand or sentenced

in places of detention (Ramallah, Hebron, Beersheba) run by the prison service. Two special visits were made to Chattah and Nafha prisons.

Identical visits were carried out in October to 212 detainees under interrogation and detainees on remand or sentenced in several places of detention (Ashkelon, Masiahu, Nablus).

Transfers of persons through the demarcation lines were organized under the auspices of the ICRC: in September, two detainees who had benefited from a remission of penalty were transferred, one to Cyprus and the other to Jordan; in October, one person crossed over to Jordan and 4 Israelis returned to Israel by the Allenby bridge.

*

Following the Israel Government's decision to apply "the law, jurisdiction and administration of the State" on the Golan Heights, the ICRC wishes to point out that the principle of the inviolability of the rights of protected persons who are in occupied territory is laid down in article 47 of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949. Consequently, the civilian population of the said territory may not be deprived of the benefits of the Fourth Convention by any change introduced into the institutions or laws of that territory. In this manner, the ICRC endeavours to ensure that its activities in aid of the civilian population of this territory are not affected in any way.

On the other hand, in November 1981, at Manila, the Twenty-fourth International Red Cross Conference adopted a resolution (No III) on the occupied territories in the Middle East. The text of the resolution is reproduced in the present issue of this Review.

Letter from the ICRC to the UN

concerning an inquiry into the alleged use of chemical weapons

We print below the full text of a letter which the ICRC wrote on 19 June 1981 to the United Nations in reply to an inquiry dated 1 May 1981 pursuant to the UN General Assembly Resolution No. 35/144 C. The resolution requested the Secretary-General to carry out, with the assistance of qualified medical and technical experts, an impartial investigation regarding the alleged use of chemical weapons and to assess the extent of the damage caused by the use of such weapons.

An excerpt from the ICRC's letter to the UN was published before, in an annex to the UN Secretary-General's Report on chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons (document UN A/36/613 of 20 November 1981).

LETTER FROM THE ICRC

The President of the ICRC has transmitted me your letter of 1 May 1981, concerning Resolution 35/144 C, and has asked me to send you our reply which I now have the honour to do.

1. The ICRC and chemical and bacteriological weapons

The original goal of the ICRC, which remains tragically topical today, is to limit the suffering brought about by armed conflicts. The ICRC was thus at the origin of the 1949 Conventions and their additional Protocols of 1977, those treaties of humanitarian law which aim to protect at all times those not taking part, or no longer taking part, in the fighting (the wounded, shipwrecked, prisoners or civilians) against the effects of war. The efforts made by the ICRC with a view to prohibiting or restricting the use of certain indiscriminate or particularly cruel weapons should be considered as a logical complement to the Geneva law, since these efforts are also primarily aimed to alleviate the plight of the victims of conflicts.

As far back as 6 February 1918, the ICRC launched an *Appeal against the use of poisonous gases* to the belligerents. In this appeal, the ICRC raised its voice strongly against the use of poisonous or asphyxiating gas, this « barbarous innovation which science strives to perfect, in other words to make ever more murderous and refined in cruelty ». It realized, moreover, that this was the start of a very dangerous development: « This will turn into a race for the cruellest and deadliest processes. »

In the period between the two World Wars, the ICRC, with the backing of the entire Red Cross movement, constantly concerned itself with the problem of chemical warfare, both in promoting defence measures against chemical warfare, and in particular chemical warfare from the air, and in seeking to get chemical weapons banned. Among other things, it set up a Documentation Centre on chemical warfare and convened commissions of experts. It also supported the efforts which culminated in the adoption of the Geneva Protocol of 17 June 1925 for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare. It strongly urged States on several occasions to sign and ratify this Protocol. The International Red Cross Conferences, furthermore, have strongly condemned chemical warfare, and *International Review of the Red Cross* has published a number of articles on the subject which even developed into a regular column.

It therefore follows that the allegations concerning the use of chemical weapons, as well as the investigation decided upon by the United Nations, can hardly leave the ICRC indifferent.

2. The ICRC and requests for inquiries

The ICRC has made its position known regarding requests for inquiries as long ago as 1939, in a message addressed to the belligerents of the Second World War (see the *Report of the ICRC on its Activities during the Second World War*, Vol 1, p. 16).

This position has been reiterated on several occasions since, the last being in *International Review of the Red Cross*, (No 221, March-April 1981). It can be resumed as follows:

The ICRC can only co-operate in an inquiry either by virtue of a mandate conferred on it in advance by an international treaty, or by the *ad hoc* agreement of all parties concerned. However, it will never constitute itself as a commission of inquiry. It will confine itself to choosing, from outside its own organization, persons qualified to take part in such a commission.

Furthermore, the ICRC will not participate if the inquiry procedure fails to guarantee complete impartiality and does not give the parties the means to put forward their points of view. It must also receive the assurance that no communication to the public concerning a request for an inquiry or an inquiry itself will be made without its consent.

The ICRC will not in principle take part in the institution of a commission of inquiry, under the conditions outlined above, unless this inquiry is concerned with breaches of the Geneva Conventions or their additional Protocols. Under no circumstances will it take part if this would incur any risk of making its traditional activities on behalf of war victims more difficult, if not impossible, or of compromising its reputation for impartiality and neutrality.

3. The ICRC and violations of international humanitarian law

The primary aim of the ICRC is to assist and protect victims to the best of its ability. In the case of a war, it seeks first and foremost to establish contact with the authorities of the parties involved in the conflict in order that they grant access to the victims and subsequently agree, if necessary, to improve the living conditions and treatment of these victims, with a varying degree of assistance from the ICRC. The role of ICRC delegates is thus, first and foremost, to contribute directly to the protection and assistance of the victims; it is not to keep account of possible violations, especially in such a delicate area as the conduct of hostilities. Because of this, the ICRC does not have any specific reports on the weapons and combat methods used in the armed conflicts in which it intervenes. The ICRC is not, however, indifferent to violations of international humanitarian law, of which it considers itself the guardian. It will take all appropriate steps to stop or prevent such violations. As a general rule, these steps remain confidential, but the ICRC reserves the right to publicly take position on violations of international humanitarian law if all the following conditions are met:

- these violations are important and repeated;
- the steps taken confidentially have not succeeded in stopping the violations;
- such publicity is in the interests of the persons or populations affected or endangered;
- the delegates have been direct witnesses to these violations, or the existence and extent of the violations have been established by means of reliable and verifiable sources.

The ICRC does not in principle express its opinion on the use of certain weapons or means of combat. However, it does not rule out the possibility of taking steps and, if necessary, making itself heard if it considers that the fact of resorting to a weapon or a method of warfare, or of threatening to resort to it, would aggravate the situation to an exceptionally serious degree. To do this, it must however have reliable and verifiable facts in its possession (See *International Review of the Red Cross*, No 221, March-April 1981).

If the ICRC should happen to go spontaneously to ascertain, *a posteriori*, the result of a violation of international humanitarian law, it only does so if it considers that the presence of its delegates on the spot will facilitate the accomplishment of its humanitarian tasks, especially if it is necessary to evaluate the victims' needs with a view to helping them. Moreover, it will not send a delegation there unless it can reasonably hope that its presence will not be used to political ends.

4. The ICRC and Resolution 35/144 C

If resolution 35/144 C specifically mentions the ICRC as a result of a communication from the International Committee to the press on 6 May 1980, we would like to make the following points. Having received from its delegation in Bangkok samples taken at the frontier between Thailand and Kampuchea from patients suspected of having been victims of poison gas, the ICRC sent the samples to a scientific laboratory for analysis. The analyses carried out by the laboratory did not establish the presence of poison gas in the sample submitted to them. As the affair had become known, the ICRC deemed it preferable to issue a press release to avoid any unfounded rumours on the subject.

However, it is impossible to draw any general conclusions from this analysis which was only concerned with one particular case; one cannot therefore claim, on this basis alone, that poison gases were or were not used in the frontier region mentioned above.

5. Conclusions

The nature of the work of the ICRC and the extent of its commitments in the conflicts following the Second World War do not give it sufficient information to conclude that chemical weapons have or have not been used. The only fact it can produce — which is certainly not decisive in a general context—is that, in those places where they have been able to work, its delegates have not themselves noted the flagrant and large-scale use chemical weapons.

Finally, we would state that if it was wished to involve the ICRC further in the procedure of a specific inquiry, the ICRC could only accept on the basis of the criteria laid down in the aforesaid document on the violations of international humanitarian law and recalled in this note.

19 June 1981.

J. Moreillon

*Director of the Department
of Doctrine and Law of the ICRC*

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- PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA** — Albanian Red Cross, 35, Rruga e Barrikadave, *Tirana*.
- ALGERIA** (Democratic and People's Republic) — Algerian Red Crescent Society, 15 bis, Boulevard Mohamed V, *Algiers*.
- ARGENTINA** — Argentine Red Cross, H. Yrigoyen 2068, 1089 *Buenos Aires*.
- AUSTRALIA** — Australian Red Cross, 206, Clarendon Street, *East Melbourne 3002*.
- AUSTRIA** — Austrian Red Cross, 3 Gusshausstrasse, Postfach 39, *Vienna 4*.
- BAHAMAS** — Bahamas Red Cross Society, P.O. Box N 91, *Nassau*.
- BAHRAIN** — Bahrain Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 882, *Manama*.
- BANGLADESH** — Bangladesh Red Cross Society, 34, Bangabandhu Avenue, *Dacca 2*.
- PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN** — Red Cross of Benin, B.P. 1, *Porto Novo*.
- BELGIUM** — Belgian Red Cross, 98 Chaussée de Vleurgat, 1050 *Brussels*.
- BOLIVIA** — Bolivian Red Cross, Avenida Simón Bolívar, 1515, *La Paz*.
- BOTSWANA** — Botswana Red Cross Society, Independence Avenue, P.O. Box 485, *Gaborone*.
- BRAZIL** — Brazilian Red Cross, Praça Cruz Vermelha 10-12, *Rio de Janeiro*.
- BULGARIA** — Bulgarian Red Cross, 1, Boul. Biruzov, *Sofia 27*.
- BURMA** (Socialist Republic of the Union of) — Burma Red Cross, 42 Strand Road, Red Cross Building, *Rangoon*.
- BURUNDI** — Red Cross Society of Burundi, rue du Marché 3, P.O. Box 324, *Bujumbura*.
- CAMEROON** — Cameroon Red Cross Society, rue Henry-Dunant, P.O.B. 631, *Yaoundé*.
- CANADA** — Canadian Red Cross, 95 Wellesley Street East, *Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 1H6*.
- CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC** — Central African Red Cross, B.P. 1428, *Bangui*.
- CHILE** — Chilean Red Cross, Avenida Santa María 0150, Correo 21, Casilla 246V., *Santiago*.
- CHINA** (People's Republic) — Red Cross Society of China, 53 Kanmien Hutung, *Peking*.
- COLOMBIA** — Colombian Red Cross, Carrera 7a, 34-65, Apartado nacional 1110, *Bogotá D.E.*
- CONGO, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF THE** — Croix-Rouge Congolaise, place de la Paix, *Brazzaville*.
- COSTA RICA** — Costa Rican Red Cross, Calle 14, Avenida 8, Apartado 1025, *San José*.
- CUBA** — Cuban Red Cross, Calle 23 201 esq. N. Vedado, *Havana*.
- CZECHOSLOVAKIA** — Czechoslovak Red Cross, Thunovska 18, 118 04 *Prague 1*.
- DENMARK** — Danish Red Cross, Dag Hammarskjølds Allé 28, Postboks 2600, 2100 København Ø.
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC** — Dominican Red Cross, Apartado Postal 1293, *Santo Domingo*.
- ECUADOR** — Ecuadorian Red Cross, Calle de la Cruz Roja y Avenida Colombia, 118, *Quito*.
- EGYPT** (Arab Republic of) — Egyptian Red Crescent Society, 29, El-Galaa Street, *Cairo*.
- EL SALVADOR** — El Salvador Red Cross, 17 Av. Norte y 7a. Calle Poniente, Centro de Gobierno, *San Salvador*, Apartado Postal 2672.
- ETHIOPIA** — Ethiopian Red Cross, Rass Desta Damtew Avenue, *Addis Ababa*.
- FIJI** — Fiji Red Cross Society, 193 Rodwell Road, P.O. Box 569, *Suva*.
- FINLAND** — Finnish Red Cross, Tehtaankatu 1 A, Box 168, 00141 *Helsinki 14/15*.
- FRANCE** — French Red Cross, 17 rue Quentin Bauchart, F-75384 *Paris CEDEX 08*.
- GAMBIA** — The Gambia Red Cross Society, P.O. Box 472, *Banjul*.
- GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC** — German Red Cross in the German Democratic Republic, Kaitzerstrasse 2, DDR 801 *Dresden 1*.
- GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF** — German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany, Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 71, 5300, *Bonn 1*, Postfach (D.B.R.).
- GHANA** — Ghana Red Cross, National Headquarters, Ministries Annex A3, P.O. Box 835, *Accra*.
- GREECE** — Hellenic Red Cross, rue Lycavittou 1, *Athens 135*.
- GUATEMALA** — Guatemalan Red Cross, 3ª Calle 8-40, Zona 1, *Ciudad de Guatemala*.
- GUYANA** — Guyana Red Cross, P.O. Box 351, Eve Leary, *Georgetown*.
- HAITI** — Haiti Red Cross, Place des Nations Unies, B.P. 1337, *Port-au-Prince*.
- HONDURAS** — Honduran Red Cross, 7a Calle, 1a y 2a Avenidas, *Comayagüela, D.M.*
- HUNGARY** — Hungarian Red Cross, V. Arany János utca 31, *Budapest V*. Mail Add.: 1367 *Budapest 5*, Pf. 249.
- ICELAND** — Icelandic Red Cross, Nóatúni 21, 105 *Reykjavik*.
- INDIA** — Indian Red Cross, 1 Red Cross Road, *New Delhi 110001*.
- INDONESIA** — Indonesian Red Cross, Jalan Abdul Muis 66, P.O. Box 2009, *Djakarta*.
- IRAN** — Iranian Red Crescent, Avenue Ostad Nejatollahi, Carrefour Ayatollah Taleghani, *Teheran*.
- IRAQ** — Iraqi Red Crescent, Al-Mansour, *Baghdad*.
- IRELAND** — Irish Red Cross, 16 Merrion Square, *Dublin 2*.
- ITALY** — Italian Red Cross, 12 via Toscana, *Rome*.
- IVORY COAST** — Ivory Coast Red Cross Society, B.P. 1244, *Abidjan*.
- JAMAICA** — Jamaica Red Cross Society, 76 Arnold Road, *Kingston 5*.
- JAPAN** — Japanese Red Cross, 1-3 Shiba-Daimon 1-chome, Minato-Ku, *Tokyo 105*.
- JORDAN** — Jordan National Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 10 001, *Amman*.
- KENYA** — Kenya Red Cross Society, St. John's Gate, P.O. Box 40712, *Nairobi*.
- KOREA, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF** — Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, *Pyeongyang*.
- KOREA, REPUBLIC OF** — The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, 32-3Ka Nam San-Dong, *Seoul*.
- KUWAIT** — Kuwait Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 1350, *Kuwait*.
- LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC** — Lao Red Cross, P.B. 650, *Vientiane*.
- LEBANON** — Lebanese Red Cross, rue Spears, *Beirut*.
- LESOTHO** — Lesotho Red Cross Society, P.O. Box 366, *Maseru*.

- LIBERIA** — Liberian National Red Cross, National Headquarters, 107 Lynch Street, P.O. Box 226, *Monrovia*.
- LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA** — Libyan Arab Red Crescent, P.O. Box 541, *Benghazi*.
- LIECHTENSTEIN** — Liechtenstein Red Cross, *Vaduz*.
- LUXEMBOURG** — Luxembourg Red Cross, Parc de la Ville, C.P. 404, *Luxembourg*.
- MALAGASY REPUBLIC** — Red Cross Society of the Malagasy Republic, rue Patrice Lumumba, *Antananarivo*.
- MALAWI** — Malawi Red Cross, Hall Road, *Blantyre* (P.O. Box 30080, Chichiri, *Blantyre* 3).
- MALAYSIA** — Malaysian Red Crescent Society, JKR 2358, Jalan Tun Ismail, *Kuala Lumpur* 11-02.
- MALI** — Mali Red Cross, B.P. 280, *Bamako*.
- MAURITANIA** — Mauritanian Red Crescent Society, B.P. 344, Avenue Gamal Abdel Nasser, *Nouakchott*.
- MAURITIUS** — Mauritius Red Cross, Ste Thérèse Street, *Curepipe*.
- MEXICO** — Mexican Red Cross, Avenida Ejército Nacional n° 1032, *México* 10 D.F.
- MONACO** — Red Cross of Monaco, 27 boul. de Suisse, *Monte Carlo*.
- MONGOLIA** — Red Cross Society of the Mongolian People's Republic, Central Post Office, Post Box 537, *Ulan Bator*.
- MOROCCO** — Moroccan Red Crescent, B.P. 189, *Rabat*.
- NEPAL** — Nepal Red Cross Society, Tahachal, P.B. 217, *Kathmandu*.
- NETHERLANDS** — Netherlands Red Cross, P.O.B. 30427, *2500 GK The Hague*.
- NEW ZEALAND** — New Zealand Red Cross, Red Cross House, 14 Hill Street, *Wellington* 1. (P.O. Box 12-140, *Wellington North*.)
- NICARAGUA** — Nicaragua Red Cross, D.N. Apartado 3279, *Managua*.
- NIGER** — Red Cross Society of Niger, B.P. 386, *Niamey*.
- NIGERIA** — Nigerian Red Cross Society, Eko Aketa Close, off St. Gregory Rd., P.O. Box 764, *Lagos*.
- NORWAY** — Norwegian Red Cross, Drammensveien 20 A, *Oslo* 2, Mail add.: *Postboks 2338, Solli, Oslo* 2.
- PAKISTAN** — Pakistan Red Crescent Society, National Headquarters, 169, Sarwar Road, *Rawalpindi*.
- PAPUA NEW GUINEA** — Red Cross of Papua New Guinea, P.O. Box 6545, *Boroko*.
- PANAMA** — Panamanian Red Cross, Apartado Postal 668, Zona 1, *Panamá*.
- PARAGUAY** — Paraguayan Red Cross, Brasil 216, *Asunción*.
- PERU** — Peruvian Red Cross, Jirón Chancay 881, *Lima*.
- PHILIPPINES** — Philippine National Red Cross, 860 United Nations Avenue, P.O.B. 280, *Manila* D 2803.
- POLAND** — Polish Red Cross, Mokotowska 14, *Warsaw*.
- PORTUGAL** — Portuguese Red Cross, Jardim 9 Abril, 1 a 5, *Lisbon* 3.
- QATAR** — Qatar Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 5449, *Doha*.
- ROMANIA** — Red Cross of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Strada Biserica Amzei 29, *Bucarest*.
- SAN MARINO** — San Marino Red Cross, Palais gouvernemental, *San Marino*.
- SAUDI ARABIA** — Saudi Arabian Red Crescent, *Riyadh*.
- SENEGAL** — Senegalese Red Cross Society, Bd Franklin-Roosevelt, P.O.B. 299, *Dakar*.
- SIERRA LEONE** — Sierra Leone Red Cross Society, 6A Liverpool Street, P.O.B. 427, *Freetown*.
- SINGAPORE** — Singapore Red Cross Society, 15 Penang Lane, *Singapore* 0923.
- SOMALIA (DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC)** — Somali Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 937, *Mogadishu*.
- SOUTH AFRICA** — South African Red Cross, 77, de Villiers Street, P.O.B. 8726, *Johannesburg* 2000.
- SPAIN** — Spanish Red Cross, Eduardo Dato 16, *Madrid* 10.
- SRI LANKA (Dem. Soc. Rep. of)** — Sri Lanka Red Cross Society, 106 Dharmapala Mawatha, *Colombo* 7.
- SUDAN** — Sudanese Red Crescent, P.O. Box 235, *Khartoum*.
- SWAZILAND** — Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society, P.O. Box 377, *Mbabane*.
- SWEDEN** — Swedish Red Cross, Fack, S-104 40 *Stockholm* 14.
- SWITZERLAND** — Swiss Red Cross, Rainmattstr. 10, B.P. 2699, *3001 Berne*.
- SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC** — Syrian Red Crescent, Bd Mahdi Ben Barake, *Damascus*.
- TANZANIA** — Tanzania Red Cross Society, Upanga Road, P.O.B. 1133, *Dar es Salaam*.
- THAILAND** — Thai Red Cross Society, Paribatra Building, Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, *Bangkok*.
- TOGO** — Togolese Red Cross Society, 51 rue Boko Soga, P.O. Box 655, *Lomé*.
- TONGA** — Tonga Red Cross Society, P.O. Box 456, *Nuku'alofa*.
- TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO** — Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society, Wrightson Road West, P.O. Box 357, *Port of Spain*, Trinidad, West Indies.
- TUNISIA** — Tunisian Red Crescent, 19 rue d'Angleterre, *Tunis*.
- TURKEY** — Turkish Red Crescent, Yenisehir, *Ankara*.
- UGANDA** — Uganda Red Cross, Nabunya Road, P.O. Box 494, *Kampala*.
- UNITED KINGDOM** — British Red Cross, 9 Grosvenor Crescent, *London, SW1X 7EJ*.
- UPPER VOLTA** — Upper Volta Red Cross, P.O.B. 340, *Ouagadougou*.
- URUGUAY** — Uruguayan Red Cross, Avenida 8 de Octubre 2990, *Montevideo*.
- U.S.A.** — American National Red Cross, 17th and D Streets, N.W., *Washington, D.C.* 20006.
- U.S.S.R.** — Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, I. Tcheremushkinskii proezd 5, *Moscow* 117036.
- VENEZUELA** — Venezuelan Red Cross, Avenida Andrés Bello No. 4, Apart. 3185, *Caracas*.
- VIET NAM, SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF** — Red Cross of Viet Nam, 68 rue Bà-Triệu, *Hanoi*.
- YUGOSLAVIA** — Red Cross of Yugoslavia, Simina ulica broj 19, *Belgrade*.
- REPUBLIC OF ZAIRE** — Red Cross of the Republic of Zaire, 41 av. de la Justice, B.P. 1712, *Kinshasa*.
- ZAMBIA** — Zambia Red Cross, P.O. Box R.W.1, 2837 Brentwood Drive, *Lusaka*.